Hafa Adai!

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MVA takes issue with bill to divert portion of hotel occupancy tax. PAGE 3
Inos: We're making some headway on casino project. PAGE 6

FINANCE RELEASES THIRD BATCH

$450K child tax checks out

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The Department of Finance released yesterday morning the third batch of child tax credit checks totaling $450,000.

Finance Secretary Larrisa Larson told *Saipan Tribune* they have by now already released $4 million to $5 million in child tax money.

"We released everyone who is cleared in the system that filed as of April 15," Larson said.

She said right now they are working on those people who filed after the deadline and those who asked for extensions.

The Finance secretary said they are also correcting the records of those people who come in to clear their errors.

For refund and rebates, Larson estimates

See TAX on Page 4

Suspended lawyer Quichocho disbarred

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho has ordered the disbarment of suspended lawyer Ramon King Quichocho Jr. from the practice of law in CNMI courts for professional misconduct in representing his then-client, Jung Ja Kim. In a 50-page decision on Tuesday, Camacho said that no lesser sanction would match the severity of Quichocho's misconduct.

See story on PAGE 2

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Former governor Juan N. Babauta and former senator Juan S. Torres pose for a group photo with family members, relatives, and supporters shortly after they filed yesterday their candidacy before the Commonwealth Election Commission as governor and lieutenant governor, respectively.

Babauta, Torres file candidacy

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

» Strong middle class proposed

Former governor Juan Nekai Babauta and former senator Juan Sablan Torres filed yesterday their candidacies for governor and lieutenant governor, respectively, at the Commonwealth Election Commission in Susupe. The two longtime Republicans are running as independents.

Babauta and Torres filed their candidacies along with Benjamin Cepeda, their lone candidate for House of Representatives for Precinct 1.

Babauta, Torres, and Cepeda trooped to the commission at 9:40am accompanied by family members, relatives, and supporters. Juan "Liling" Reyes, chairman of the Committee-to-Elect Babauta and Torres, was also present.

The Babauta-Torres tandem is the second among four gubernatorial teams to file their candidacies for this November elections. On Thursday, Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) led the filing of candidacies for 26 Republican candidates at CEC.

The filing deadline is Aug. 6.

In an interview, Babauta said he and Torres propose to build a strong middle class, which is one of the things that the CNMI economy is lacking.

"Pay our workers as they rightly de-

See BABAUTA on Page 4

Local

Camacho orders disbarment of suspended lawyer Quichocho

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho has ordered the disbarment of suspended lawyer Ramon King Quichocho Jr. from the practice of law in CNMI courts for professional misconduct in representing his then-client, Jung Ja Kim.

In a 50-page decision on Tuesday, Camacho said that no lesser sanction would match the severity of Quichocho's misconduct.

"The attorney-client relationship is grounded in trust, and it is that trust upon which the validity of the entire legal system depends," the judge said.

In this case, Camacho said, Quichocho's acts of exploiting Kim on multiple levels undermined not only her trust in him but the public's trust in the legal profession and the legal system.

Such conduct, Camacho said, is not tolerated in an attorney practicing before CNMI courts.

Quichocho was ordered to pay all costs and fees as set forth in the Commonwealth Disciplinary Rules and Procedures.

Should he apply for readmission to the CNMI Bar, he must provide proof of restitution to Kim as a condition of readmission, Camacho said.

Quichocho

As Quichocho is currently suspended from the practice of law in the CNMI, Camacho required him to submit to the court an affidavit on or before July 30, 2014.

Just on Tuesday, Camacho ordered Quichocho to explain why he should not be held in contempt for not filing an affidavit in relation to his prior suspension.

Under Rule 15(d) of the Commonwealth Disciplinary Rules and Procedures, within 10 days after the effective date of a disbarment or suspension order, the disbarred or suspended attorney shall file with the Superior Court an affidavit showing, among other things, that he or she has complied with the provisions of the order and rules.

According to Camacho's order of disbarment, the disciplinary hearing against Quichocho in Kim's case ran from June 30, 2014, to July 1, 2014. Attorney Mark A. Scoggins was the court-appointed disciplinary counsel. Quichocho did not appear.

The CNMI Bar Association Disciplinary Committee had forwarded the case to court. The case arises out of conduct and actions occurring over the course of a two-year attorney-client relationship between Quichocho and Kim and several companies that she controlled.

Between March 2007 and March 2009, Quichocho allegedly engaged in multiple improper and unfair business transactions with Kim; had inappropriate and nonconsensual sex with her; violated his duty of loyalty by ignoring conflicts of interest; and improperly shared management and control of his law office with his wife, a non-attorney.

When viewed in its entirely, Camacho said the manner in which Quichocho provided legal services and repeatedly exploited Kim's interest for his own gain indicates a lack of competence and honesty requisite to practice law.

Camacho said that based on the filings, evidence presented, and applicable standards of professional conduct, the court finds clear and convincing evidence that Quichocho's acts constituted professional misconduct, in violations of the rules governing attorneys.

"The appropriate sanction for these violations is disbarment," the judge said.

Camacho found clear and convincing evidence that Quichocho and Kim had a sexual relationship that did not exist prior to the attorney-client relationship.

Camacho said that evidence

See CAMACHO on Page 4

Quichoco forks up the money; show-cause hearing is vacated

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

The U.S District Court will vacate attorney Ramon K. Quichoco's show-cause order as he has given consent to release the bail amount of $1,200 to satisfy Ming Yang Corp.'s legal fees.

On Monday, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona said the show-cause order would be vacated if Quichoco agrees to release the amount of $1,200 cash bail to Ming Yang Corp. within 24 hours of posting bail.

Quichoco gave the notice of consent that same day. If he had not, the matter would be set for a show-cause hearing.

Manglona issued a bench warrant against Quichocho on July 7 for failing to appear at a show cause hearing that same day. She imposed a $1,200 cash bail.

The judge said she would address the issue of finding Quichoco in civil contempt once he is present before the court.

In his motion to quash the bench warrant, the attorney said he tendered $1,200 bail money to the clerk of court's office on Thursday. Also, he informed the court that he is off-island for medical reasons and that he would not be available to attend the hearing in person but only via teleconference.

Mark Scoggins, counsel for Ming Yang Corp., indicated that they would not oppose vacating the show-cause order if the bail is released his client to cover their legal fees. Manglona agreed with Scoggins.

Only June 16, the judge issued the $1,200 sanction order against Quichoco for the late submission of his opposition to Ming Yang's motion to dismiss a lawsuit. Part of the sanctions required paying Ming Yang's legal fees in preparing for a motion.

The fees were to be paid no later than June 25. But on June 24, Quichoco filed a motion to reconsider Manglona's order. The judge denied the motion and extended the payment deadline to June 27.

On June 27, Scoggins filed a petition for an order to show cause as Quichoco failed to pay the fees. Manglona granted the petition.

THE
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The recruitment fairs are scheduled between 9 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. on the dates listed below.

Saipan Dates
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August 7-8 - Multi-Purpose Center

Rota Dates
July 25
Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Junior High School

Tinian Dates
July 25
Tinian Elementary School

Contact Info:
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MVA takes issue with bill to divert portion of hotel occupancy tax

By JAYSON CAMACHO
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REPORTER

After nearly three years of talks of increasing the hotel occupancy tax by 5 percent and coming to an agreement to allocate the funds to the Marianas Visitors Authority for marketing purposes, a new bill is being proposed to divert 1 percent of that funding to the Saipan Mayor's Office.

The proposed bill, House Bill 18-155, was introduced by Rep. Larry Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) and is currently being reviewed by the House Ways and Means Committee.

The bill wants to amend the hotel occupancy tax law to reserve 1 percent of the taxes collected for the mayor's office's beautification and maintenance projects.

HB 18-155 proposes that the mayor's office "shall receive 1 percent but not to exceed $60,000 of the taxes collected."

The bill states that "anything in excess of $60,000 shall be remitted to the CNMI General Fund."

The bill states that CNMI relies heavily on the tourism industry as a primary source of private employment and public revenues. In order to attract more tourists to the CNMI, it is "necessary to maintain the beauty of our island."

In an interview with *Saipan Tribune*, MVA executive director Perry Tenorio he feels "very uneasy" about talks to reallocate funds from the hotel occupancy tax for other purposes.

"We've had collaborations and discussions with [the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands] and they supported the 5-percent increase in the hotel occupancy tax with the understanding that the money is going to be reinvested back into the CNMI as a travel destination," Tenorio said.

He noted that most members of the Legislature had voted to pass House Bill 18-2, the original bill that increased the hotel occupancy tax from 10 percent to 15 percent.

"So it's really concerning that they are now considering reallocating resources that, in my understanding, as an initiative promise, will be reinvested back to the traveling industry," he said.

Tenorio believes that a lot of the Commonwealth's travel partners will be disappointed and disillusioned if HB 18-155 does go through.

"That was initially promised to be solely invested back into the traveling industry and is solely being used for the purposes," he said.

He pointed out that hotel partners supported increasing the hotel occupancy tax because there was an implied promise that any increase will be used by MVA to promote the CNMI travel industry.

In an earlier statement, HANMI said that it supported the hotel occupancy tax increase with the government's assurance that the funds raised would go toward marketing and destination enhancement.

"We strongly feel it is imperative to ensure that the funding stays intact to MVA so it can continue its work of attracting visitors," HANMI stated.

MVA board president Marian Aldan-Pierce said that a consensus was reached to support the proposed increase with the understanding revenues will be given to MVA for its marketing use.

House Bill 18-2 was signed into law by Gov. Eloy Inos on March 11, 2013, in support of allocating the funds for MVA, increasing the hotel occupancy tax by 5 percentage points, from 10 percent to 15 percent.

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10th Guam National Guard Camp Freedom opens

MAJ JOSEPHINE BLAS/GUAM NATIONAL GUARD

Children of National Guard members listen to a safety brief prior to the start of activities at Week 1 of this year's Camp Freedom at Fort Juan Muna, Harmon.

MAJ JOSEPHINE BLAS/GUAM NATIONAL GUARD

Children of National Guard members prepare to start activities at Week 1 of this year's Camp Freedom at Fort Juan Muna, Harmon.

The 10th Annual Camp Freedom opened Monday for children of Guam National Guard airmen and soldiers at Fort Juan Muna in Harmon.

The Guam National Guard Counterdrug Program, together with the Family Programs Office, conducts the annual camp to bring children together who shared the tough experience of having their parents deploy and allows children to interact and network with one another. The camp provides an interactive learning environment full of team building activities and experiences that help develop fellowship among dependents.

Priority for Camp Freedom is for children of Guam Guard soldiers and airmen, ages 5 to 17, who recently returned from deployment.

Nearly 600 soldiers from Task Force Guam, 31 airmen of the 254th Security Forces Squadron, and four soldiers from the 1990th Contingency Response Team recently returned from deployments to various parts of Southwest Asia.

MAJ JOSEPHINE BLAS/GUAM NATIONAL GUARD

Master Sgt. Lisa Cruz provides an introduction of activities and safety brief prior to the start of Week 1 at Camp Freedom at Fort Juan Muna, Harmon.

"The primary focus of Camp Freedom is to help build and foster the children's resiliency, self-esteem, and team building ability in a fun and friendly environment," said Maj. Gen. Benny M. Paulino, The Adjutant General of the Guam National Guard.

The first Camp Freedom was held in 2005. That year, the Guam Guard continued to see a high deployment rate among its soldiers and airmen. Dependents, especially children, were faced with the hardship of having a parent deployed to the combat theater.

Camp Freedom consists of two one-week sessions, on July 14-18 and July 22-26, with about 100 kids at each session. Activities for the children include various team building events, a puppet show, movie and ice cream day at a local theater, sports, Underwater World tour, kite flying at the War in the Pacific Park, a park cleanup at Asan Public Beach, and a fun day at Onward Water Park. ***(PR)***

MAJ JOSEPHINE BLAS/GUAM NATIONAL GUARD

Children of National Guard members prepare to start activities at Week 1 of this year's Camp Freedom at Fort Juan Muna, Harmon.

BABAUTA

From Page 1

serve a higher wages so they can be more productive and more prosperous," Babauta said.

He said that ever since the islands became a Commonwealth, the economy has been built based on low wages.

"We started with a labor force of garment workers. We started a labor force of low-paid construction workers and even in the service industry," he said.

The former governor pointed out that the CNMI has very little at the extreme end of the economic scale of high-paying jobs.

"Over the last 36 years we created a vacuum in the middle where there is no middle class," he said.

For the Babauta-Torres tandem, there has to have a strong middle class in order to have a strong economy.

"We don't want to go back to the days of low-paying jobs," Babauta said.

The former governor said he and Torres are in the process of finalizing their platform.

He said they are going to convene a press conference not just to present their platform but the general offer of their positions on issues and also the specifics of their proposals and plans.

Babauta said it's going to be a platform that will address the suffering of the community from high utility rates and health care costs.

Babauta said they would also deal with the trust in governance issue.

"We both feel that the people of the CNMI deserve a more transparent, more open government," he said.

Babauta said they will be offering a platform that addresses the critical needs and the suffering of this community.

"The people need relief from the suffering. And we're going to address those suffering that need to be resolved years ago and could have been prevented," he said.

Torres stated that their solution is more concrete and long term, unlike the casino industry that may falter. One of their solutions? Alternative power energy.

Torres said alternative power is a sure thing as this will generate income for the government.

"We have an investor that can invest, at their own risk, $300 million and the savings that will be generated from the usage of power from that alternative power will be savings that the government can realize," the former senator said.

The savings can be translated to paying the Retirement Fund, said Torres, who is also a former representative and former administrator of the Fund.

Torres also noted that about $70 million has been spent by the government each year to buy oil and that could be a savings for the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

"That can be also translated into having a sure revenue that's coming into the government. That would assure the retirees or for that matter the entire government," he said.

Torres said a casino may falter because there are so many outside factors that the CNMI cannot control.

Babauta said it's a tremendous feeling of pride to see the support they've been shown by their supporters.

"We have friends and family members who are here. We really appreciate that. I feel that enthusiasm from them and I hope that we can carry that enthusiasm all the way to elections," Babauta said.

As to the issue that they have only one candidate for the Legislature, Babauta said they don't expect a complete slate.

"But whoever joins our team and gets on board with us, we really appreciate that," he said.

Babauta and Torres are running as independents because the GOP rejected their request for a primary race.

Babauta served for 12 years as CNMI resident representative to Washington D.C. before being elected governor in 2001. He served from 2002 to 2006.

TAX

From Page 1

that close to $4 million or $5 million has already been distributed by now.

Last June 14, Finance released the first batch of refund, rebate, and child tax credit checks for calendar year 2013, totaling nearly $5 million for almost 6,700 taxpayers. The administration released the checks over a month earlier than originally anticipated.

CAMACHO

From Page 2

presented at the hearing clearly and convincingly demonstrates that at least two of the instances of sex took place without Kim's consent.

"This indicates another level of professional misconduct," he said.

Camacho said that Quichocho violated Model Rule 1.8(j) by instructing his wife, Frances, to have sex with Kim.

Last May 28, Camacho suspended Quichocho's license to practice law for three years for using a legal tool to harass a former client to obtain payment.

On Tuesday, Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman ordered a public reprimand against Quichocho for professional misconduct in connection with another Bar complaint filed by a couple.

Last March 28, a federal jury reached a unanimous verdict, holding Quichocho, his wife, and his law firm liable to pay $2.4 million in damages to Kim, who filed a racketeering lawsuit against them.

The jury, however, found Kim liable to pay Quichocho and his law firm $48,221.67 in legal fees.

Pacific Islands in top 10 countries for obesity, diabetes

» WHO reports that 70-75 percent of deaths in Pacific due to related diseases

PORT MORESBY, Papua New Guinea (PNG Post-Courier/PIDP)—Pacific Islands are in the top 10 countries with the highest rates of obesity as well as diabetes, a report from the World Health Organization says about these non-communicable diseases.

WHO defines non-communicable disease as a medical condition or disease that by definition is non-infectious and non-transmissible among people.

NCDs may be chronic diseases of long duration and slow progression, or they may result in more rapid death such as some types of sudden stroke.

They include autoimmune diseases, heart disease, stroke, many cancers, asthma, diabetes, chronic kidney disease, osteoporosis, Alzheimer's disease, cataracts, and more.

Key findings in this report state NCDs account for around 70 to 75 percent of all deaths in the Pacific Islands. Many of these NCD-related deaths are premature and a predictable.

Most of the trends and risk factors point to a worsening of the situation. The top 10 countries with the highest rates of diabetes in the world are in the Pacific Islands; 52.45 percent of adult males in Tonga are estimated to be obese. In Kiribati, Federated States of Micronesia, Tonga, and Samoa, adult female obesity is estimated to be 50 percent or more.

The report further states NCDs impose large but often preventable financial costs on already overstretched government health budgets. Several NCD-related programs in the Pacific Islands are already unsustainable financially.

However, there are proven, affordable, and cost-effective interventions.

Zoning OKs Big Boys Marine Sports shop

By JAYSON CAMACHO
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REPORTER

The Zoning Board approved Thursday last week a conditional use application by Big Boys Marine Sports for a vehicle and repair maintenance and paint and auto body shop.

Big Boys is currently renting the property on Chalan Monsignor Guerrero Avenue as a commercial garage, owned by Masanari Yasuda, and is proposing it to be changed to a repair shop.

» Hiponia cites unresolved legal issues

Marlon Castro, who supports the project, said he has known Yasuda for almost 20 years and has been his long time friend.

Castro said he feels that Yasuda should be issued the permit once all concerns on environmental issues are addressed in an "orderly fashion."

Felipe Atalig, who earlier opposed Diamond Water's application to move to Gualo Rai, expressed support for Yasuda's project this time.

Marizel Hiponia, who was representing her family, opposed the application's approval due to Big Boys not having a sublease contract with her family.

Hiponia also noted that the area isn't large and that traffic and environmental issues could cause problems for the neighbors and an apartment complex located nearby.

Hiponia said the lease agreement between her family and Big Boys has not been resolved yet, and that they have no capacity to do anything on the property.

"They do not yet have a valid sublease agreement for the property so providing approval to Big Boy would be illegal," Hiponia told Zoning board.

Zoning's legal counsel Kate Fuller told the Zoning board that they don't really have the expertise to interpret people's leases.

Board chair Diego Blanco said he only wants clarity on the lease agreement.

Zoning Board member Herman Sablan asked Yasuda if he has a valid lease agreement. Yasuda confirmed that it had been signed and noted that the commercial garage was dirty and broken and that he had fixed it.

Atalig said they had covered the shop to prevent fumes from escaping and have a machine that prevents the fumes from leaving the garage.

Hiponia noted that broken areas of the shop still cause the fumes to escape the area. A neighbor of Hiponia spoke about fumes and its harm to his children and of cars coming in and out.

After deliberations, Zoning's administrator Therese Ogumoro added one more condition to the original nine conditions for the permit—that the applicant must obtain a permit from the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality to address concerns on the fumes prior to beginning their operation and ensure that fumes are controlled.

After the approval, Yasuda told *Saipan Tribune* that he was happy they approved his application.

Hiponia stated that she will talk with her lawyer on the issues and further actions that they may take.

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Inos: We're making some headway on casino project

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos yesterday said he's glad that Saipan has gone this far—closer to having a $2-billion integrated casino resort following the Lottery Commission's decision to grant a conditional license to Best Sunshine International Ltd.—but admitted that there are still a few more issues to address before he can say that "everything is a go."

Inos

In an interview with *Saipan Tribune* at the governor's office on Capital Hill, Inos said there are still areas that need to be worked out such as the casino gaming plan and other things.

"In those negotiations you need to have both parties agree to whatever that's on the table. But I'm happy and pleased that it has gone this far with the selection and now it's going to be about the award," the governor said.

He hopes the award will move things along such as the release of the $30 million that's being held in escrow and getting the disbursements for the retirees.

"I think we're making some headway," Inos said.

As to when the retirees will to start receiving their deferred 25-percent pension, Inos disclosed that in a week or two the administration should be in a better position to make that determination.

"Right now we are talking to the Retirement Fund. They have all the data. We don't have the data. So we're trying to figure out what's the best way, most expeditious and efficient way to get those checks out," he said.

The Retirement Fund, Inos said, has calculations to do and that the administration acknowledges that.

"Hopefully within the next week or two we should be able to know how things are going to fan out from that point," he added.

The Lottery Commission on Tuesday unanimously granted a conditional casino license to Best Sunshine International Ltd. The approval is considered "conditional" until the Lottery Commission and Best Sunshine negotiate and come up with a casino development agreement.

Retirees are looking forward to the release of their withheld 25-percent pension since last year, once the $30 million that Best Sunshine deposited is released following a grant of a final casino license.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Delta Air Lines station manager Chris Concepcion, second from left, and NMI Crime Stoppers chair Brian Clayton, third from left, present a $,1000 Delta Airline voucher to winner Junping Woodruff, third from right, along with Delta Air Lines Staff.

NMI Crime Stoppers softball tournament and Delta Air Lines raffle a huge success

The NMI Crime Stoppers would like to thank all players, spectators and sponsors of this year's fundraising softball tournament.

This year 14 teams challenged each other for the most desired TOM & JERRY/NMI Crime Stoppers Trophy and bragging rights as champion of the most anticipated softball tournament of the year. Played over three days, this double elimination tourney, provided spectators with some of the hottest softball action in recent years.

Crime Stoppers wants to thank its sponsors for their generous contributions to the tournament: DFS, Brabu Pharmacy, I Love Saipan/Star Sands Plaza, Megabyte, AON Insurance, IT&E, Pacific Amusement, *Marianas Variety*, CUC, PIC, Shell/IP&E, Marpac, Docomo, and Delta Air Lines.

Delta Air Lines also donated $1,000 in travel vouchers that were raffled of to the public in another way for the residents of the NMI to show their support for this valuable program. The raffle drawing was on Sunday during the championship game and the lucky winner was Junping Woodruff. Proceeds from the tournament and raffle go to assist with NMI Crime Stoppers' annual operation budget.

NMI Crime Stoppers was founded in 1989 and collaborates with the media, law enforcement, and the community to provide a contact number and website accessible to everyone to report information about crime in the NMI and elsewhere. Calls and Web contact with Crime Stoppers is always anonymous and tipster information is never used, even if provided. You can even upload photo on the "submit a tip" on our website. Crime Stoppers pays up to $1,000 for information leading to an arrest. It pays to call. Call 234-7272 or www.nmicrmestoppers.net and click on "submit a tip"

Tips to NMI Crime Stoppers have cleared over 400 cases, led to the arrest of over 250 persons, recovered over $250,000 in stolen property, and taken over $2.6 million worth of illegal drugs off the streets.

For more information on Crime Stoppers or to make a donation, become a sponsor or board member contact Jim Arenovski, regional director for Crime Stoppers International, at 287-7037 or deltamgt@pticom.com. ***(Crime Stoppers)***

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM – OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

ADDENDUM NO. 1
July 8, 2014
ITB14-GOV-110

Puerto Rico Dump Closure Project

The previously advertised, Invitation to Bid ("ITB") for the "Puerto Rico Dump Closure Project" has been amended. The specific amendment is to extend dateline for the bid submission. The ITB shall read as follows:

Sealed bids must be marked **"ITB14-GOV-110, "Puerto Rico Dump Closure Project"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 AM ChST Tuesday, July 29, 2014. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 10:00 AM ChST Tuesday, July 29, 2014, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than Tuesday, July 29, 2014 and must be received no later than Thursday ChST, August 7, 2014. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 PM ChST Friday, July 18, 2014 to Ms. Elizabeth Balajadia, P.E., Project Manager, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 664-2408. All responses to questions should be shared with other prospective contractors.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 9:00 AM ChST Friday, August 8, 2014. However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will opened at 10:30 AM ChST Tuesday July 29, 2014.

All other elements of the ITB remain as originally provided. For further information on this project, please contact the Capital Improvement Office, during working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. – Monday through Friday, except holidays) or by contacting Mr. Carl Castro, Contracting Officer Technical Representative at (670) 664-2375 or by fax at (670) 664-2408.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Thirteenth CNMI State Board of Education hereby gives notice that there will be a Special Board Meeting on Friday, July 18, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. at the BOE Conference Room in Bwughos Street, Susupe, Saipan.

AGENDA

I. Preliminary
1. Call to Order
2. Swearing-in of Student Representative Loria Dee A. Hocog
3. Roll Call
4. Adoption of Agenda

II. Public Comments[1]

III. Reports
1. Chair
2. Board Committees
   a. FPA
3. Commissioner of Education
   a. Financial Status Reports
      i. Federal
      ii. Local
   b. Head Start Program Report
   c. Other matters

IV. Unfinished Business

V. New Business
1. Head Start Program
   a. School Year 2014-2015 Request for Transportation Waiver
   b. One Time Emergency Health & Safety Grant Application
   c. Revised Organizational Chart
2. Certification and Licensure Matters
   a. Recommendation for Issuance of Certification & Licensure
3. Commissioner of Education Evaluation

VI. Executive Session[2]
1. Legal Updates
2. Personnel/Certification
3. Other matters

VII. Administrative Matters

VIII. Discussion of Agenda for next Board meeting

IX. Adjournment

[1]Pursuant to BOE Policy 0415, public comments are limited to 30 minutes. We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments.
[2]Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Board may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEY FOR Petitioner

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter of the Appointment of General Guardian For ZOE KLEUI CABRERA MAREHAM, a minor child.	) CIVIL ACTION) NO. 14-0323) FCD))))

NOTICE

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that MARK A. AGUON and JENNIFER W. AGUON have filed a Petition, asking that Petitioners be appointed as the general guardian of Zoe Kleui Cabrera Mareham, a minor child; and that the said Petition will be heard by the Court on Thursday, July 17, 2014, at the hour of 10:30 a.m. of the said day.

DATED: July 16, 2014

/s/ Clerk of Court

CUC finalizing PPA for solar energy on Saipan, Rota

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. is moving forward in finalizing a power purchase agreement for solar energy for both Saipan and Rota.

At CUC's board meeting on June 19, American Capital Energy disclosed that CUC had given them an exclusive right to negotiate a solar power purchase agreement in 2011.

The CUC board gave CUC management the go signal on June 19 to move forward with the PPA and finalize the contract with ACE, with consideration that the planned 10 megawatt capacity is built on Saipan (8MW) and Rota (2MW).

The project cost is estimated at $35 million to $40 million.

"At this time, we are moving forward in finalizing a PPA based on the original procurement," according to CUC executive director Alan Fletcher.

Fletcher said that CUC envisioned up to 0.6MW for Rota and up to 9.4MW for Saipan.

At their most recent meeting in July, CUC board chair David Sablan Jr. said there could be problem with the 0.6MW CUC envisions for Rota. Sablan told CUC management that Rota needs more.

Sablan recommended that the contract for Rota be amended or that another RFP could be issued for an additional 1.4MW but Fletcher said that CUC should avoid over-procurement. He did note that the project is expandable in its design.

"As we move forward, plans are that a project will be 'scalable' in design, that is, ready to be expanded as demands change," Fletcher told *Saipan Tribune.*

Fletcher's example is that CUC would not build a new 80MW power plant on Saipan.

"Our current demand (usage) peaks at around 35MW. If we were to build a new plant, we would build to the current demand, say 40MW range," Fletcher said. "And build in the ability to expand in the future as new customers come online and scales increase."

Rota is currently at a 1.3MW in diesel generation for peak maximum usage.

According to Fletcher, in the last year CUC has continued to work through a backlog of customer-owned solar project applications now totaling 2.3MW.

"We now know that there are finite levels of energy we can introduce into the system in order to safely maintain grid stability," Fletcher said.

ACE is looking at building the project within 46 months.

"As a result, the size and configuration of any new solar project energy will be a primary factor as we look to finalizing a PPA with ACE," Fletcher said.

Red Cross donates blankets to hospital

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Dr. Sherleen Osman, director of Medical Affairs, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.; Esther L. Muna, CEO, CHCC; Joaquin Deleon Guerrero, facility manager, CHCC; Warren Villagomez, PHEPP/HPP director, CHCC; John Hirsh, executive director, American Red Cross; Zachary Flores, Medical Supply assistant, CHCC; Paul W. Camacho, Emergency Services director, American Red Cross; and Thomas Palacios, General Support supervisor, CHCC

The American Red Cross NMI Chapter donated more than 350 cotton blankets to the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. on Tuesday, July 15.

"CHCC greatly appreciates the American Red Cross' blanket donation," said CHCC CEO Esther L. Muña. "The donation just elevated our linen capacity in the hospital. We are very thankful for this donation from our partner American Red Cross NMI Chapter."

"We are glad to see that these blankets will go to good use," said Paul W. Camacho, Emergency Services director, American Red Cross. "We hope that it will bring warmth and comfort to the hospital patients."

For information regarding the American Red Cross NMI Chapter, contact Camacho at 670-234-3459. ***(ARC)***

THUNDER BUDDY BIRTHDAY

Belated happy birthday to Pacific Islands Club's Glenn Policare! Greetings from Team SEA.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB14-DPW/FHWA-126(A)(B)(C)

SUBMISSION/OPENIING DATE: AUGUST 11, 2014
TIME: 10:30 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF SEVEN (7) DESKTOP COMPUTERS AND FOUR (4) LAPTOPS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS – HIGHWAY SECTION"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PARTS, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ MARTIN C. SABLAN
SECRETARY OF DPW

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP NO.: RFP14-BECQ-128

SUBMISSION DATE: AUGUST 08, 2014 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"TO CONDUCT CLEAN UP ACTION PROJECT TO REMOVE CONTAMINATED SOILS AND BURIED DRUMS FROM MANAGAHA ISLAND, A PROJECT UNDER THE BUREAU OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND COASTAL QUALITY"

THE SCOPE OF WORK IS AVAILABLE ON OR AFTER JULY 17, 2014 AT THE BECQ OFFICE LOCATED AT THE GUALO RAI CENTER BUILDING, ON CHALAN PALE ARNOLD ROAD, SAIPAN OR ELECTRONICALLY BY E-MAIL REQUEST TO raymasga@deq.gov.mp. A PRE-PROPOSAL MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR JULY 28, 2014 AT 10:00 A.M., LOCAL TIME IN THE 2ND FLOOR BECQ CONFERENCE ROOM (RM. 205).

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS PROJECT MAY BE SUBMITTED BY FACSIMILE TO MR. RAY MASGA, MANAGER, SITE ASSESSMENT AND REMEDIATION BRANCH, AT (670) 664-8540 OR BY E-MAIL AT raymasga@deq.gov.mp NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, JULY 30, 2014. RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS SHALL BE SHARED WITH ALL PROSPECTIVE PROPOSERS.

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PARTS, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ FRANK M. RABAULIMAN
ADMINISTRATOR, BECQ

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

COSMOS DISTRIBUTING CO. (SPN) LTD.
is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the position of:

Sales Representatives (2)
Associate's degree in Sales & Marketing or Accounting with minimum of 3 years experience in sales. Proven skills in product marketing and providing excellent customer service are required. Must be proficient in MS Excel and Word for preparation of reports and Outlook for email. Must provide for his/her own reliable transportation for out-of-office work activities and must also be able to meet monthly sales targets. Applicant needs to be able to lift at least 50 lbs. Extensive contacts in various businesses and industries are advantage. Available to work on evenings, holidays, weekends.

Sales Representatives – Hospitality Industry and Lubricants
A minimum of 3 years work related experience required with a successful sales record. Preferably with Associate's Degree in Sales & Marketing. Sales experience with hotel, F&B, and restaurants together with knowledge of their inventory and supply operations an advantage. Knowledge of petroleum lubricants is a plus. Proven good tract records in product marketing and excellent customer service are required. Must be proficient in MS Excel and Word for preparation of report and Outlook for email. Must provide for his/her own reliable transportation for out-of-office work activities and must also be able to meet monthly sales targets. Applicant needs to be able to lift at least 50 lbs. Extensive contacts in various businesses and industries are advantage. Available to work on evenings, holidays, weekends.

Business Operations Manager
Graduate of 4-year Business or Accounting course and at least 6 years of progressive management experience in wholesaling and product distribution. Minimum of 5 years general management experience in warehouse, sales, purchasing and distribution activities. Must be proficient in the use of SAP R3 Financial and Controlling (FICO) software, MAS90/Sage Accounting Software and Microsoft software. Must have a solid track record in meeting business objective.

Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.
Salaries will be commensurate with qualifications and experiences.
For applications to be considered, they should be sent to
hrd@cosmosdistributing.com
Not later than July 25, 2014

We are Equal Opportunity Employer

Century Hotel
is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following positions:

A/C Refrigeration Mechanic (1)
Qualification: Requires post-secondary instruction from technical and trade schools or community colleges that offer programs in air-conditioning and refrigeration , or an associate's degree. Completion of apprenticeship program or two (2) to four (4) years of experience. Able to install and repair industrial and commercial refrigeration systems. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, holidays, weekends and nights.

Guest Relations Agent (1)
Qualification: High School diploma or equivalent, two (2) years experience in providing quality customer and personal service. This includes customer needs assessment, meeting quality standards for service and evaluation of customer satisfaction. Must be able to handle customer complaints with efficiency. Multi-tasking skills, detail oriented and effective problem solving are essential. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, holidays and weekends and nights.

General Maintenance Worker (1)
Qualification: Minimum of 2 years work experience as a handyman preferably in a hotel or in a similar large building or complex with a central plant. Willingness to work outside (if necessary) in inclement weather. Must be able to carry and lift heavy objects. Possession of a valid CNMI driver's license is required. Perform work involving skills of two or more maintenance craft occupations to keep machines, mechanical equipment or the structure of an establishment in repair. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, holidays, weekends and nights. High School diploma or equivalent.

Guest Relations Senior Supervisor (1)
Qualification: High School diploma or equivalent training in vocational schools , related on-the-job experience or an associate's degree in hospitality or hotel management. 2 years experience in supervisory/managerial capacity in a high volume hotel is preferred. Must be able to supervise, train and coordinate all activities of the front desk ensuring the establishment is run effectively and profitably.

Housekeeping Cleaner (1)
Qualification: High School diploma or equivalent. Minimum of 6 months work experience in a hotel is preferred. Able to speak and write English. Ability to speak basic foreign language is a plus. Good customer service skills are essential. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, holidays, weekends and nights. Must be able to lift and carry heavy objects.

Interested applicants may obtain and submit application form from Fiesta Resort & Spa's security office located at the South Wing of the Resort.
To be considered, all applications must be submitted no later than July 18, 2014.
Background check and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Century Hotel is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

Century Insurance Company, Ltd.
is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following positions:

Accountant
Must be a college graduate with a Bachelor's Degree in Finance and Accounting with at least 5 years work-related experience in insurance financial management and payroll and general accounting procedures with emphasis on receivable, payable, and payroll management. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 FICO system, GENIISYS and MS Word and Excel software. Payroll accountant must possess experience in electronic processing of timesheets, allotments, and standard and government deductions. Must be able to work under time pressure and flexible hours.

Accounting Supervisor
A Bachelor's Degree in Accounting and/or Finance from an accredited college or university with minimum of 3 years work experience in supervisory level, supervising at least 2 associates. CPA board passer and with experience in Property & Casualty Insurance accounting operations is an advantage. Knowledgeable in SAP R3 FICO System and SAP Fixed Asset Module. Background in General Insurance Information System (GENIISYS) is a plus. Proficient in analyzing financial statements and must have knowledge in external regulatory reporting requirements. Microsoft Office proficiency with advanced knowledge in Excel is a must.

Claims Officer
College graduate with a Bachelor's Degree preferably in Business Management with 10 years experience in a non-life insurance company particularly in the Claims Department. Must be knowledgeable in automotive, marine, casualty, worker's compensation, and property damage adjusting and estimation. Responsible for the evaluation, monitoring and adjustment of claims in accordance with the company practices and procedures. Must also be knowledgeable on reinsurance and have the ability to interpret statistical information for reinsurance purposes. Must have excellent customer service skills, time management, written and oral communication skills. Must be computer literate and proficient in MS Office and Oracle-based programs.

General Manager
Bachelor's Degree plus 10 years experience in the insurance business, at least 5 years of that as a general or operations manager in an insurance company. Must possess experience in managing technical underwriting including actual undertaking of risk analysis through risk survey and/or inspections of huge risks. Must have experience in managing reinsurance transactions with reinsurance brokers and reinsurers which involves undertaking of PML, Catastrophe Modeling, Setting Company Risk Retention. Must also be experienced in managing insurance claims handling including setting up of loss reserves in overseeing Claims Manager functions.

System Analyst
Must be a college graduate with a Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science/Technology or Management Information Systems with a minimum 4 years experience in computer systems and programming. Must possess a broad knowledge and experience in computer systems, strong problem-solving and analytical skills, and the ability to think logically. Must have knowledge in Oracle server and programming, and a strong experience in insurance database and program – GENIISYS and an in-depth experience in insurance business operations. Must have good interpersonal and communication skills.

Underwriting and Claims Supervisor
Must be a college graduate with a Bachelor's Degree plus 5 years of work experience in insurance business particularly in claims, underwriting, and reinsurance. Must also have knowledge, skills and ability to analyze and manipulate enterprise risk management. Must possess above average communication skills, a working knowledge of MS Word and Excel and the insurance software GENIISYS. Must be willing to take cross-functional assignments and adapt to changes necessary for the effective functioning of the organization's business operations.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at Century Insurance Company Ltd. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Thursday, July 24, 2014.

Century Insurance Company, Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

EEOC opens registration for Guam EEO workshop for private, public employers

»Federal agency's full-day seminar to take place Sept. 10 in Tumon at the Pacific Star Resort

GUAM—The federal agency tasked with enforcing laws against employment discrimination, the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, announced yesterday that registration has officially opened for its EEOC Guam Technical Assistance Program Seminar for both private and public employer representatives, confirmed to take place on Sept. 10 in Tumon, Guam.

It has been seven years since the EEOC hosted a seminar in Guam, the last one occurring in 2007. This year's seminar will feature keynote presentations by the EEOC's acting Los Angeles District Director, Rosa Viramontes; EEOC Supervisory Administrative Judge Diane Gross; and EEOC Honolulu Local Office Director Timothy Riera. Officials from the U.S. Department of Labor's Wage & Hour Division and Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs are also slated to present.

The seminar is geared toward attorneys, mediators, human resource and equal employment opportunity professionals in the private and federal sectors, along with other interested parties. The comprehensive training sessions and workshops will provide updates and guidance on EEO law and how to approach EEO cases the way the EEOC experts do. There is also a federal sector track for EEO professionals and attorneys representing federal agencies, along with beginning and advanced issue workshops for all.

"We are thrilled to return to Guam to connect with local employer representatives," said Rosa Viramontes, acting district director for the EEOC's Los Angeles District, which includes Guam in its jurisdiction. "Our seminar is an opportunity to hear firsthand from EEOC officials who will provide updates and guidance on how to address and prevent discrimination, harassment and retaliation in the workplace."

Further details about the conference, including the agenda, pricing information and online registration are available at http://www.kinsail.com/view.asp?I=590507. Registration information may also be obtained by calling (213) 894-1045 or via e-mail: christine.park-gonzalez@eeoc.gov. The early and online discounted fee for registration is $269 for the full-day seminar. Payments received after Aug. 11 or not online will incur the full registration fee of $299. The seminar will take place at the Pacific Star Resort & Spa in Tumon, which is offering discounted room rates for seminar attendees.

The EEOC is responsible for enforcing federal laws prohibiting employment discrimination in the public and private sectors. Additional information about the agency can be found at www.eeoc.gov. ***(EEOC)***

250 Korea, Japan students take part in UOG English program

The University of Guam Professional and International Programs Office welcomed more than 250 students from six Korean and four Japanese universities to campus this summer to participate in the short-term English Adventure Program.

Students are focusing on language acquisition skills as well as cultural activities through July, August, and September. While on campus, foreign students learn about American and Guam cultures and connect with UOG students from the International Friendship Club. They also go on various excursions around the island to enjoy all that Guam has to offer.

"This is part of the University of Guam's internationalization effort to develop comprehensive relationships with partner universities," said Professional and International Programs director Cathleen Moore-Linn. "These relationships enable us to offer study abroad opportunities to University of Guam students. We sent eight UOG students to Chonbuk National University's summer program for four weeks on scholarship while two smaller groups of students will travel to Jeju and Pusan universities later this month. These overarching relationships help build language skills, cultural interaction and understanding, and better prepare all participating students to compete in a global workforce."

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Hankuk University of Foreign Studies students are welcomed to the University of Guam campus. Hankuk is one of 10 foreign universities participating in English programs at the University of Guam campus this summer.

Participating universities from Japan include Chiba Institute of Technology, Shibaura Institute of Technology, Gifu City Women's College, and Aichi Shukutoku University. Partner universities South Korea include Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, Dong Yang University, Pusan National University, Chungbuk National University, GN Tech National University, and Jeju National University.

"UOG branded English language and other activities offered within an American higher education framework combined with opportunities to engage with UOG students positions UOG as the destination of choice for English language acquisition in Asia," noted PIP associate director Carlos Taitano.

"We expect these programs and relationships to continue to grow and to enable more UOG students to expand their own educational horizons by studying abroad," added Moore-Linn. "It is a win-win-win for Guam, the University of Guam, and our partner universities." ***(UOG)***

OVR's ILOB program to do July outreach on Tinian, Rota

Barbara P. Cabrera, caseworker assistant for the Independent Living Older Blind program under the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, will conduct outreach to the Tinian and Rota communities in July.

In coordination with the Tinian and Rota Offices on Aging, the Tinian outreach will take place at the Tinian *Man'amko* Center on July 22 from 9am to 2pm, while the Rota outreach is scheduled for July 28 from 10am to 2pm at the Rota *Man'amko* Center. OVR extends its appreciation to Evelyn David of Tinian and Henry Atalig of Rota for their assistance in coordinating these events.

Individuals age 55 or older with severe visual impairment who are interested in applying for ILOB services are required to bring a copy of their valid picture identification and health insurance card.

The purpose of the ILOB program is to support services for individuals age 55 or older whose severe visual impairment makes competitive employment difficult to obtain but for whom independent living goals are feasible. The ILOB program is funded by the Rehabilitation Services Administration under the U.S. Department of Education.

For more information about the ILOB program, contact OVR at 322-6537/8; TTY: (670) 322-6449; or email: nmidir@ovrgov.net. ***(OVR)***

AFT Holdings voices concern for waning US interest in Pacific fisheries

SAN DIEGO and AUCKLAND, New Zealand—American treaty negotiations with the Pacific Island Nations concluded Saturday in Auckland, New Zealand, with a "No Deal" conclusion, leaving the United States Tuna Fleet without fishing access to the Pacific Ocean in 2015.

Proposed closure in U.S. territories in the Pacific currently under review by the Obama administration to revise the status to "Protected Monument Marine Parks," without consultation with industry or science, has created an environment of increased pressure to secure fishing access within the remaining ocean.

AFT Holdings, Inc. is a shareholder of Ocean Global and Sea Global, the largest US Tuna Fleet, which operates 12 purse seine vessels navigating the Pacific. The vessels provide more than 100,000 tons of fish per year serving the U.S. canned market. Representatives of Ocean Global and Sea Global participated in the recent treaty negotiations, along with other tuna Industry members, U.S. State and National Marine Fisheries representatives, and noted their extreme disappointment in the outcome.

"The value offered for 2015 access represented a 38-percent increase over 2014 with 100 percent of the proposed increase coming from Industry," said J. Douglas Hines, chairman and general partner of AFT Holdings, Inc. "With an unprecedented 57 percent increase alone from the U.S. Fleet over 2014 levels, the value for access considering the price of tuna collapsed from 2013 to 2014 makes economics difficult to bare.

"Although we do hope and expect to have an agreement in the next couple weeks it will not be without extreme apprehension and real cost." ***(PR)***

Coast Guard medivacs woman from aground sailboat in Lanai

HONOLULU—The U.S. Coast Guard medically evacuated a 25-year-old woman from a sailing vessel after it ran aground outside of Ka'a Fishpond, Lanai, on Saturday.

Watchstanders at the Sector Honolulu Command Center received notification via Channel 16 at 7:28pm from 38-foot sailboat *Raven* that it was aground and taking on water on the east side of Lanai with three people aboard.

An MH-65 Dolphin helicopter crew from Air Station Barbers Point and a Response Boat-Medium crew from Station Maui launched en route to the aground vessel.

When the RB-M crew arrived on scene at 9pm they assessed the location of the vessel and determined that they were unable to maneuver close enough to take the vessel in tow. The sailboat was hard aground but not in danger of sinking.

Two of the sailboat's crew would remain overnight on the vessel.

Due to a preexisting medical condition of the third crewmember, watchstanders consulted a flight surgeon who made the recommendation for medical evacuation.

At 12:14am, a rescue swimmer was lowered into the water to hoist the patient and also supplied back-up VHF radios to the two remaining crewmembers.

The helicopter crew safely transported the patient to awaiting EMS at Kahului Airport.

Raven remains hard aground with one crewmember aboard until salvage arrangements can be made. The second crewmember kayaked into the beach at Ka'a Fishpond Sunday morning. ***(USCG)***

Economic census: USVI generated $6.8B sales in 2012

The 2,414 business establishments in the U.S. Virgin Islands generated $6.8 billion in sales, employed 32,465 people and paid $1.1 billion in annual payroll, according to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2012 Economic Census of Island Areas: Geographic Area Series for the U.S. Virgin Islands. Between 2007 and 2012, sales declined by $12.6 billion, or 64.9 percent. In 2007, the U.S. Virgin Islands' 2,583 business establishments had sales of $19.5 billion, an annual payroll of $1.1 billion and 35,300 paid employees.

Every five years, the economic census provides the most authoritative and comprehensive source of information about the entire U.S. economy, including U.S. territories. The 2012 Economic Census statistics for the U.S. Virgin Islands and its component three islands and towns include businesses with paid employees. The U.S. Virgin Islands is a U.S. territory in the Caribbean.

Other findings:

■ The U.S. Virgin Islands had 87 businesses with 50 or more employees in 2012, representing 3.6 percent of all businesses. These businesses accounted for 54.8 percent ($3.7 billion) of total sales. In 2007, 109 businesses had 50 or more employees, representing 4.2 percent of all businesses, and they accounted for 83.9 percent ($16.3 billion) of total sales.

■ The manufacturing sector accounted for 28.7 percent of total sales in 2012, the most of any sector. Sales totaled $2.0 billion. The manufacturing industry employed 1,984 people and reported $168 million in payroll.

■ Retail trade ranked second among sectors in share of sales, accounting for 19.3 percent of total sales in 2012. The sector had sales of $1.3 billion, employed 6,596 people and had $142 million in payroll.

■ The largest increase in employment was in the professional, scientific, and technical services sector with 2,108 paid employees in 2012, up 738 employees from 1,370 in 2007.

■ In 2012, there were 311 women-owned establishments, up from 271 in 2007 (a 14.8 percent increase). The sales and receipts for women-owned businesses increased 19.9 percent to $247.4 million, from $206.3 million in 2007.

The statistics for the U.S. Virgin Islands are available through the Census Bureau's American FactFinder, an online search tool that allows users to access, filter, manipulate and extract statistics.

The United States Industry Series reports began releasing data in June 2014 and will continue through 2016. More details are available at <http://www.census.gov/econ/census/schedule. ***(U.S. Census Bureau)***

Public comments sought for DoD public access plan

ASAN, Guam—The Guam State Historic Preservation Office, in coordination with Joint Region Marianas, will accept public comments for the Department of Defense public access plan until Aug. 14.

Comments are being sought to assist with the development of the plan, which will facilitate public visits to historic sites of interest on DOD properties, as well as allow citizens to safely collect culturally important natural resources.

Copies of the document are available at the Mayors Council of Guam, Guam Historic Preservation Trust, University of Guam Robert F. Kennedy Library, Richard F. Taitano Micronesian Area Research Center, and the Nieves M. Flores Public Library.

Online copies are available at the Cultural Resource Information website go.usa.gov/kZWG (case sensitive) and JRM website www.cnic.navy.mil/regions/jrm.html.

The public is invited to learn more about the access plan July 19 from 10am to 2pm at the Agana Shopping Center and July 27 from 10am to 2pm at the Micronesia Mall.

Following the public review period, comments will be considered and the plan will be finalized. This program is expected to become active in late 2014. ***(JRM)***

PNA launches search for a new CEO

MAJURO, Marshall Islands—The fisheries management organization Parties to the Nauru Agreement announced Friday it has launched the search for a new chief executive officer.

The CEO is based at Majuro, capital of the Marshall Islands, and is responsible to the eight member nations of the PNA for the overall management, strategic direction and operation of the PNA Office and coordination of cooperative efforts of the Parties.

Dr. Transform Aqorau, who has directed the PNA Office since it was established in 2010, will be leaving the organization in early 2015 as he wraps up five years as CEO of PNA.

The waters of the eight-member nations of PNA account for approximately 70 percent of the total catch of all species of tuna in the Western and Central Pacific and 30 percent of the world's raw canning material, making PNA a powerful fisheries management organization.

"The PNA has led the way in establishing sustainable fisheries conservation measures and managing tuna stocks for the benefit of its members," said Aqorau. "The PNA is now seeking to hire a new CEO who can continue and build on the progress of this important organization."

Among key initiatives PNA has taken since 2010 include:

■ Establishment of a "Vessel Day Scheme" capping the number of fishing days allowed annually as the mechanism for managing the purse seine tuna fishing industry in the Western and Central Pacific region.

■ Achievement of Marine Stewardship Council Certification for the only purse seine "free school skipjack tuna fishery" in the world with a certified chain of custody. It is a Partner with Sustainable of the Netherlands in Pacifical, a retailing and marketing brand that markets MSC-caught tuna from PNA waters.

■ Management of the PNA Observer Agency, which supplies trained observers who monitor catches aboard fishing vessels in the region.

■ Adoption of conservation and management measures prohibiting fishing in the two western pockets of high seas surrounded by PNA member 200-mile exclusive economic zones in the Western and Central Pacific, prohibition on setting on whale sharks, prohibition of fishing on fish aggregating devices for three months of the year, retention of all tuna species on board purse vessels, 100 percent observer coverage on all purse seine vessels, and establishment of minimum mesh size for purse seine nets.

■ The CEO oversees this work from the Majuro-based office.

"The role of the PNA in the global tuna industry is significant and is expected to grow," said Aqorau in announcing the recruitment process for a new CEO.

Details of the CEO position can be obtained from www.pnatuna.com. Applications close September 1, 2014.

The Parties to the Nauru Agreement are eight Pacific Island countries that control the world's largest sustainable tuna purse seine fishery. Member nations are Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, and Tuvalu. ***(PNA)***

$10,000 GRAND PRIZE CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

In support of the Saipan Fisherman's Association's 30th International Fishing Tournament, Pacifica Insurance Underwriters EVP/GM Shirley Sablan, left, and Century Insurance GM Gol Corpuz, right, present a $10,000 grand prize commitment and certificate of assurance for the first catch "marlin" weighing 942 lbs or more to SFA representative Tony Scragg, center. Both Pacifica and Century have been supporting SFA during its annual fishing derbies as its grand prize sponsors for the last couple of years. The record breaking 942 lb. blue Pacific marlin was caught by group Emmanuel led by Captain Mike James during the 2012 28th International Fishing Tournament.

MVA'S International Festival of Cultures in September

The Marianas Visitors Authority will launch the International Festival of Cultures this September as a new annual signature event of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The festival will be held every Saturday evening at Paseo de Marianas on Saipan and will celebrate the cultural diversity of the Northern Mariana Islands, with special emphasis on the indigenous cultures of Micronesia.

The MVA is seeking representative groups of different cultures to participate in planning for the event. Representative groups may contact MVA community projects specialist Ryan Calvo at rcalvo@mymarianas.com or at 664-3210 for more information. The last day to sign up to participate is July 31, 2014, by 5pm.

"One of the beauties of the Northern Marianas is our rich ethnic diversity, and the International Festival of Cultures will be an opportunity to showcase that to our visitors," said MVA managing director Perry Tenorio. "In general, fewer people travel to the Northern Marianas during the month of September, so we anticipate this new signature event will also help stimulate travel during the month, as the Taste of the Marianas does in May."

The festival will include food sales beginning at 5pm and live cultural entertainment from 6pm to 11pm. Admission is free. ***(MVA)***

Women, sick children heading to Nauru Detention Center

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (RNZI)—Women and sick children detained on Australia's Christmas Island could be moved to Nauru, where they might face worse health threats.

The spokesperson for the Refugee Action Coalition, Ian Rintoul, says mothers on Christmas Island were told on the weekend they would likely be moved to Nauru, where there's more of the phosphate they say is making their children sick.

Some families were temporarily moved to Darwin for treatment, but on return to Christmas Island, they say the children's condition worsened.

Ian Rintoul says some women are on suicide watch as they have threatened self harm after spending a year in limbo.

He says families have requested to move sooner, without realizing the conditions on Nauru could be worse.

"People are very very distressed to feel that they're powerless to help their children, they're desperate to get proper medical attention and they believe they need to get away from Christmas Island so that they can get proper medical attention and their kids can get better," says Rintoul.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
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EDITORIAL

Some (considered) fixes to the Religious Freedom Restoration Act

When the Supreme Court unwisely ruled that some companies can decline on religious grounds to cover contraceptives in their employee health plans, it was interpreting not the First Amendment but a federal statute, the 1993 Religious Freedom Restoration Act.

That means Congress has the authority to revisit and change the law. It can and should do so, not just to overrule the court's decision as it affects healthcare for women but also to address other possible consequences of the majority's expansive holding that for-profit corporations are "persons" that can raise religious objections to complying with a host of laws. But haste in responding to the decision makes waste, as is evident in the incomplete proposal unveiled last week by Sens. Patty Murray, D-Wash., and Mark Udall, D-Colo.

That bill would prevent for-profit corporations from using the religious freedom law to deprive members of a company health plan of any coverage required by federal law. It also would preserve the "accommodation" offered by the Obama administration to religious schools and hospitals with objections to birth control. Under that compromise, if an employer signs a form expressing religious objections to providing the coverage, its insurance carrier steps in to do so at no added cost.

But the Murray-Udall bill is too narrowly focused on contraception and healthcare.

The court's ruling that "closely held" companies such as Hobby Lobby are protected by the religious freedom law has potential impacts beyond health coverage. In her dissent, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg worried that employers might also be able to cite religious reasons for discriminating in hiring. A thorough review of the law would address this question as well as the larger issue of whether for-profit corporations can assert religious beliefs in any context.

As for contraception, the full effects of the decision are still unclear. Justice Samuel A. Alito Jr. held out the possibility that female employees of companies such as Hobby Lobby might receive disputed forms of birth control under a variation on the compromise the Obama administration offered to religious schools and hospitals. But a few days after the ruling, the court temporarily allowed Wheaton College, an evangelical institution in Illinois, to refuse to sign the form and, instead, communicate its objections in a letter to the federal government. If the court permanently decided to excuse Wheaton and other institutions from using the form, it might (as Justice Sonia Sotomayor warned) create an administrative problem. But that also won't be clear for some time.

The senators are right to want to undo the damage created by the court's radical reinterpretation of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act. But Congress needs to move with greater care and deliberation than the court demonstrated.

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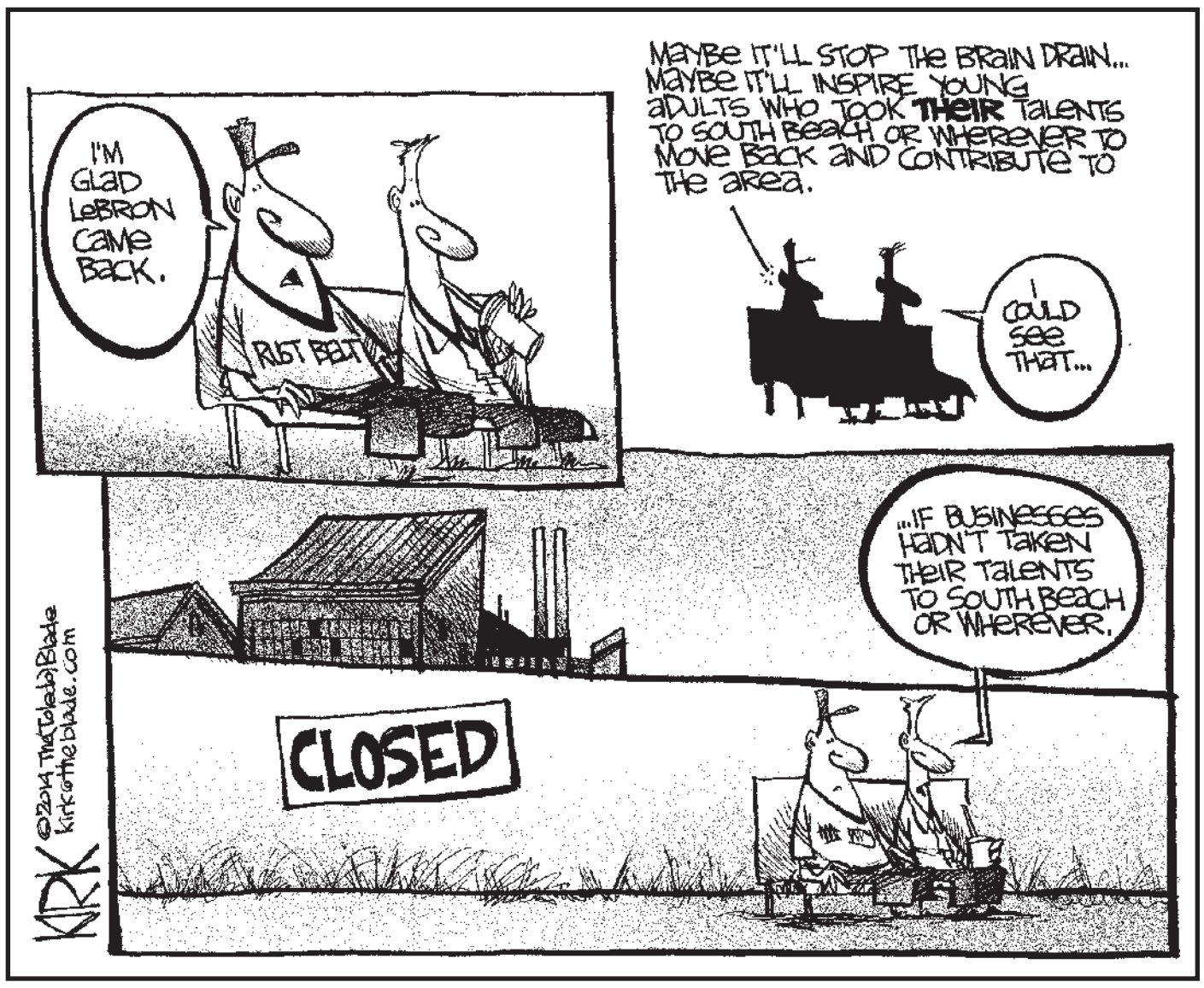
I'M GLAD LEBRON CAME BACK.
RIGHT BEHIND
MAYBE IT'LL STOP THE BRAIN DRAIN... MAYBE IT'LL INSPIRE YOUNG ADULTS WHO TOOK THEIR TALENTS TO SOUTH BEACH OR WHEREVER TO MOVE BACK AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE AREA.
I COULD SEE THAT...
...IF BUSINESSES HADN'T TAKEN THEIR TALENTS TO SOUTH BEACH OR WHEREVER.
CLOSED
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Samadhi & Om

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.

Though heavily influenced by Indo-Malay from Southeast Asia, maritime lands like the Philippines received Dharmic Hindu, Buddhist, Sikh, Jain, and Yoga influence, imperial Iberia and Midwest U.S. dumped themes and behavioral influence that did not become self-conscious until we stumbled on the presentations of comparative world religions that upended our built-in Judeo-Christian prejudices.

Samadhi came recently as the name of a restaurant in Bonham, Texas while with colleagues of the Realistic Living Institute. Having previously heard the *Om/Aum* pronounced in the state of Maharashtra in '77, I understood how a simple sound reminds one of the possibility of living the totality of one's life in what is referred to as "transcendence, immanence and transparency" wrapped in one. The sense denotes not separate parts of life but the treatment of the same as a whole, a seamless integration more than the sum of parts, a doer and a deed as one.

This runs counter to the current notion that life is what happens off-hours and on the weekends. Normal time in contemporary notion is making a living, a hustle in pursuit of the dollar. This is a global ethos. We earn a living first, then live a life on the side or in our leisure time!

The traditional passive tone of the *om,* written in Sanskrit as "that which is sounded out loudly," is solemnly uttered like a elongated three-syllable reverberating *a-u-m*, a motion meditation and process contemplation, more active than the static state of "enlightenment" that subjugates the assertive passion of being. It is non-dualistic, the experience and the experiencer merging to one, the mind becoming still, united with the object of attention.

The number of speakers of South Asian tongues plus Sinos (read Buddhist, Taoist, and secular money chasers of China, Korea, Japan, and Vietnam) are numerous along the paths we took from Texas to Chicago, San Francisco to Alberta, attesting to a growing familiarity, if not adherence, to aspects of Dharmic tradition.

But this is not about number of adherents. It is about the life understanding that folks outside of the tradition already recognize, especially those going through the pancake gates at Calgary Stampede this week. Often, we hear someone describe himself to be obsessed with something and the observer becomes one with the observed, the oneness of a meditator and the meditated, a thinker and a thought, a worshipper and what is worshipped. The mind loses its own consciousness and becomes identical with the object of its awareness.

Among mystics, this is the dissolution of a personality into the "being of God" that makes sense if we take the word G-O-D as referring to the totality of existence itself. It means living as a contemplative mystic in the din of a crowd, a walking dead among the breathing.

If this is still too abstract, let's take it to the level of seeing. When a mirror shatters, there is no longer any reflected image. There is only existence of that which was once reflected. Or, if the sun is reflected in the water pool and the sun evaporates, the reflection of the sun is no longer there. There is only the pool and the sun's existence.

Our difficulty of understanding the *Om* stems from the cognitive demand that we, as the observer, stand separately from an object observed. Samadhi claims the immediacy of consciousness more than the clarity of thought. We are not talking about being lost in a trance, like the out-of-body promotion of many spirit exercises. Rather, it is about being absorbed totally in full awareness—body, heart, mind, and soul—to the facticity of our existence.

Om in Hindi, Nepali, Gujarati, and Marathi scripts is a familiar symbol. If one wanders to the CK Hindu community, the *omkara* would be heard and the sign that looks like a figure 3 with a tail and a dot above a hovering saucer-shaped dash, is chalked or printed during holidays; the sound and sight are symbols of a state of being desired and attempted with all kinds of disciplines.

The intent and result with the Samadhi and the Om, and most religious experiences, is to be the one, unique, unrepeatable self that one is, a whole experienced as a self in the immediate and unmediated sense.

Why are we belaboring this point? There is a search for the "stillness of one's soul" abroad among alternative lifestyles, moving away from the commercial ethos of money grabbing and acquisitive society that deteriorates into escapism, denying the immediate and substantive nature of our existence. There are many how-to books and advice on attaining this integration of body-heart-mind-soul polychotomy.

A faithful seeker asked a guru if the discipline ze was being taught would bring enlightenment. The beaming guru responded that enlightenment happens or it does not happen. But it cannot be induced. The "meditative" and "contemplative" practices can make one prone to the accident of enlightenment.

We aim to be accident-prone. That's my story and I am sticking to it. *Om.*

Mafondun Fondu

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*

'Nai man-para i DB yan DC na membron programan ritirau ni umo`odas pagamienton i presente na man-ritirau, mas homhum i mapagahes piot gi finatton 2018 na sakan. Gi Oktubre na mes problema ta`lu pagamienton man-ritirau sa` ha nesessita $27 miyon pesus fuera de para uma`apse ginen fiñkas casino.

Gigon hokog magastan tetenan na salape` i fondu, magpu` lokue` pagamientu petmanente. Ni kuantu na dobladan ayau ti satbayun este na problema `nai taya` fitme katsu para u kontinuague` i programa. Dañkulu na obligasion kontribusion hinemlu` yan pagamientun man-ritirau fumufuñot i gobietnon iya Marianas.

Ni kuantu lokue` na keha gi kotte tai bali `nai esta atalag i malañgu na fondu. Estague` i klaru yan kabales estau i programan man-ritirau. Mauleg ta ketuñgu` haf` ineppen todu kandidatu pot este na asuntu. Debi u guaha ineppe piot ayu i umatrebi siha man-malagu!

Estorian apacha` yan o`dut

In` hassu estorian un` apacha` yan i edut? Era, gi tiempun abundansia sige hana`e animu i edut man-rikohe mantension ya ha pega gi halom fina` liyañg. Diariu machogue este para u guaha mantension niha gi tiempun matklima.

I apacha` yan i banidosuña sige gumupu. Tat ti ha dispetdisia sa` geppan ya todu ha hagu`. Chumochu gi katkuet lugat dispues ha yute` sepblaña. I edut ha kanu haf` nesessidatña ya ha pega i tetehnan gi fina` fan-atukaña.

Mattu un` destrosiau na pagyu. Tres dias finuegu i tanu` ni fette na mañglu yan uchan. Todu tinanom nina` fan gagalileg. Kontodu famastuyan yan tupuyan nina` fan rata. Sige i apacha` umesuette boka lau ni hafa sineda`ña. I edut kontentu chumochu gi halom liyañgña gi hagas ha famauleg na mantension mattiempu.

Animosu i man-antigu na mañainata gi finana`guen inadahe yan pine`lu para usun mattiempu. Ala kuenta, leksion na debi tana` fan humidde hit ya ta fachuchu`e kontiempu nesessidat-ta taimanu i animosu na odut. Muñga despetdisiun dididi` na guinaha-ta.

Dottrinan Famaguonta

I famaguonta man-hahanau man-dottrina dispues de finagpu` eskuela. Ennau na matutuhon man-mafana`gue pot tradision relihon Katoliku. Este na ineyag humala halom i patgon man-hassu haf` che`chu` tautau gi prohimuña.

Kumu saina, mauleg bes enkuandu in` konbetsiasune famaguon miyu haf` ineyag niha. Ginen ennau na konbetsasion `nai siña in` esgaihon mona mas mitme na kinemprende pot sustansian lai, hineñgge yan grasia.

Ala kuenta, i ineyag niha relihion i mas fitme na añkla gi linala` niha. Yangin fitme mapegaña ennau na añkla pues tihu mafondu gi halom napu. Siempre u eyag kumapitane galaide`ña dispues de ha diñgu pettan i gima` `nai esta echu tautau.

Sensian hinimidde

Ti hu tuñgu` ayu na amku` as Tun Tomas "Tagalu" soluke `nai oppan na`aña na ha gana un` button santos ya hahatsaye kapiya gi fihon gima`ña. Ha adotna tinanom flores ya diariu i familiaña munagasgas halom yan hiyuñg kapiya.

Ti tatkilu` offisioña gi gobietnu soluke katpenteru. Lau tatnai fatta sumugu` gi kapiya manayuyot antes de hinanau lemlem tautau `sino oran deskansu. Haf` i motibu na hu fafama este na amku`?

Mauleg kasse kada patriakan yan matriatkan familia u fan daña` gi fina` nobena maseha pot para u fan mafanague famaguon tinituhon gi adelantun linala` niha espirituat. Gigon un` tanum ennau na maña giya siha, libianu mapesa gi konsensian niha che`chu` kabales na kilisyanu.

Ha komprende dispues sustansian lai, hineñgge yan grasia. Gigon manhale` este pues esta ti nachatsaga `an sige mona umeyag mamatinas disision pot guiya mismu. I ineyag niha siha mismu umakonduse mona gi famaguon niha mismu.

Siha este siha na famaguon i man-lachog ma`lag na flores gi hatdin korasonta ni animu tafachuchu`e pot para u fan fitme kareran niha mona.

Pagamientu pa`gu, agupa...?

Siempre u huyuñg manana`lun ma-utut na 25 pot sientu gi pagamientun man-ritirau. Ti gratis i mamamaila` soluke para unana`lu i Gobietnu Eulogio S. Inos i ha utut deste mapos na sakan gi mes Oktubre.

I mafitma na tinilaika gi lai hana` guahaye $30 miyon pesus ginen haye na applikante ma`ayeg para u opera bisnis casino guine giya Saipan. I kuenta para pa`gu na sakan ennau i $25 miyon pesus. Man-suette hit na biahe lau puru dinimalas deste otru sakan sa` hokog fondu para nesessidat man-retirau. `An man-ñgaha hit hulu` na biahe kasse seguru na mañgonfotme dispues na debi u guaha dos na lisensia kosake siña ta laime i otru applikante.

`Nai hu tataitai i disision kotte (settlement agreement) ma-estira apas gobietnu para pagamientun man-ritirau dies años na tiempu. I tutat tinahoñgña ennau i $360 miyon pesus. Entre mas ma-utut sueddon man-ritirau `sino man-adespidu hit adios gi lemlem tautau.

Yangin u suha i tutat na pagamientun man-ritirau gi ekonomian Marianas, mas u chafleg i kaha gi maprebeniyen este yan otru siha man-presisu na setbisiun publiku. Tantu de ta bailaye siempre u kahulu` otru sakan ya u bailaye hit sin ditension.

I nesessidat pagamientu estake umadispone i uttimu na ritirau gaige gi $791 miyon pesus. Dudayu` kau u sige mona i programa dispues de sakan 2018. Siempre man-asaluda hit "adios my fileñge!"

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Vote for a new Saipan

I think a majority of voters would much rather see the headlines of Saipan being a new destination for those who want to visit an island paradise to enjoy the beaches and historic sites, with the freedom to relax and smoke pot, not to come and gamble. I read where one person seems to think the new Saipan casino law is here to stay as the solution and that we will all be rich from it but I beg to remind this person of the following facts:

The governor and the Legislature chose to kill the rights of the people to vote on the casino based on the assumption that people want a casino. Since when do Democratic or Republic governments of, for, and by the people make decisions based on assumptions—no principles, no values, no respect, no ethics and still not the solution? FYI casino supporters, our leaders need to learn it is the people's government and hopefully the people will send that message to those incumbent leaders that we the people run this, not you! You're fired!

The governor has admitted the casino is not the complete answer so the argument for the casino being the solution is with the governor, not the people, because most of us already know it is not the complete answer—just a payday for retirees. The governor killed the ferry service with nothing more than a lip-service sound bite when he said, "We are not ready for this yet." The governor also tried to kill the effort to legalize marijuana with the same sound bite but it is not working this time. The people have gotten wise and know hundreds of millions and even billions are at stake when compared to the $30 million band-aid!

The Saipan casino is not here to stay until the people say it is here to say! The governor, the Legislature, the consultants, and the Lottery Commission do not run our government. So investors should move with extreme caution as the present casino law can just as easily be changed by the next Legislature in exchange for a pot legalization law that will make the revenues from the casino look like a first grade student's lunch money!

First it was poker machines that were never supposed to be in the villages and now it's a casino that will make us all rich—who do they think they are fooling? Why are they so afraid to let their own people voice their opinion is the question every voter should be asking even if you are for the casino. Supporting something that kills the voice of the people is the most disrespectful thing a government can do to its people; it's called communism! We now know the governor even organized the retirees against the rest of us and thinks we are gullible and stupid enough to vote for him. Heck, retirees didn't even have free will—just herded like cattle to a feeding bin, not knowing they are going to be slaughtered in November. The people are smarter than Inos may think and the GOP is going to be shocked in November just like they were kicked out in the last election because many retirees are not voting for Inos—they just wanted their money and that's for true!

I feel very confident in saying the people will want a new Saipan over a new casino law in November, especially when we the people have the potential to fix our government in November and all of our financial challenges in the first year of pot legalization. FYI casino leaders and retirees, the fat lady is Ms. Johnny Mae Public and she *has not* sung one note yet! See you in November after the people's concert in the voting booth!

Ambrose M Bennett
Kagman, Saipan

Just a reminder

Gov. Inos and members of the Legislature, this is just to remind you that back in September 2013, settlement hearing judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood told us that Public Law 17-82 stated that you will pay the DB members the 20 percent first and then the rest within 30 days.

Because there was not enough money back then, you didn't comply with this law. You also went ahead and made a settlement agreement to pay them their contribution only, which is very destructive to their future retirement plan. Because of fear and the threat of losing all their money they went ahead and signed the waiver because you did not defend their contribution's interest from being taken by the court and Betty John's attorney.

And when I ask who is paying us the interest, Judge Gatewood said you guys—the government. Since you're past due with the interest and you've destroyed our plan to invest to retire elsewhere, this is just a reminder on behalf of all active DB members that you comply in paying us the rest of our money at once—not by parcel, by group, or whatever you're planning to do next to save your retirement. We are demanding that you pay us all at once. It's our turn now.

To help the retirees I suggest that you restore the 25 percent first before you refund. Refund whatever is left that will not jeopardize the retirees' future pension. Not doing so may jeopardize their future pension again. Do not attempt to pay the active DB by parcels again. Our suffering should be enough already.

So for the sake of the DB members who suffering now without retirement, have a heart and pay them all at once first and let us be at peace with each other.

Lami dai, if only you took a chance and issued two casino licenses, you won't have this issue. Won't it be better to take a chance to issue two licenses and get sued or just one and still get sued? My guess is that if you amend for two and you get sued, the other party might help you, plus we are secured with funds. But what you did, there is a possible lawsuit, and a possible funds deficit again. So, think about it guys, before it's to late. You're heading for a super typhoon.

Winnie Atalig
San Jose Village, Tinian

Retirees, stop bellyaching and help your country

If the 3,800 retirees would look into all the departments, agencies, and autonomous corporations in our government as a group, every single anomaly in these agencies could be exposed in three days but you just sit around and wring your hands and moan about your plight while our government keeps making secret, under-the-table deals, shuffling inept people from job to job they are not qualified for and never ever planning for next week, much less for five years from now or even beyond.

Since Teno's time, secrecy has been the No. 1 reason nothing seems to go right in the CNMI. If you retirees want to really be a force to be reckoned with—and you could be—demand open and transparent government for the CNMI, no more closed door anythings. You have an obligation, not just to your kids and grandkids and great grandkids, but to all future generation that call the CNMI home. You are adults and it's time for you to get involved in the mess here in the CNMI. All of you worked for one agency or another and you have expertise in every single operation required to keep this government operating and operating on track. Stop whining and go to work exposing what's wrong here.

I do know that two governors, Sixto Igisomar, senators, legislatures, and many others have told you in plain Chamorro, plain Carolinian, and plain English many, many times that the Fund is insolvent because previous legislatures gave it "too much," and no one listened then or is listening now. Have even one of you ever Googled "bankrupt pension funds"? There are 400,000 sites. If all 3,800 retirees looked into even one site each, maybe something would click and you could make some suggestions to the government. You get 75 percent, millions are getting zero. Step up and make suggestions and try to accept reality. Your 75 percent is still more than 60 percent of the workers in the CNMI get, some working two and three jobs, putting in 60 to 80 hours every week. Grow up and face reality and get busy helping your country.

Here is just one site you can check for information. http://www.forbes.com/sites/jeffreydorfman/2013/07/25/detroits-bankruptcy-should-be-a-warning-to-every-worker-expecting-a-pension-or-social-security/

Gary DuBrall
Chalan Piao, Saipan

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Partly sunny with isolated showers and thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Southeast winds 5 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼79°	▲87° ▼79°	▲87° ▼79°	▲88° ▼79°	▲88° ▼79°

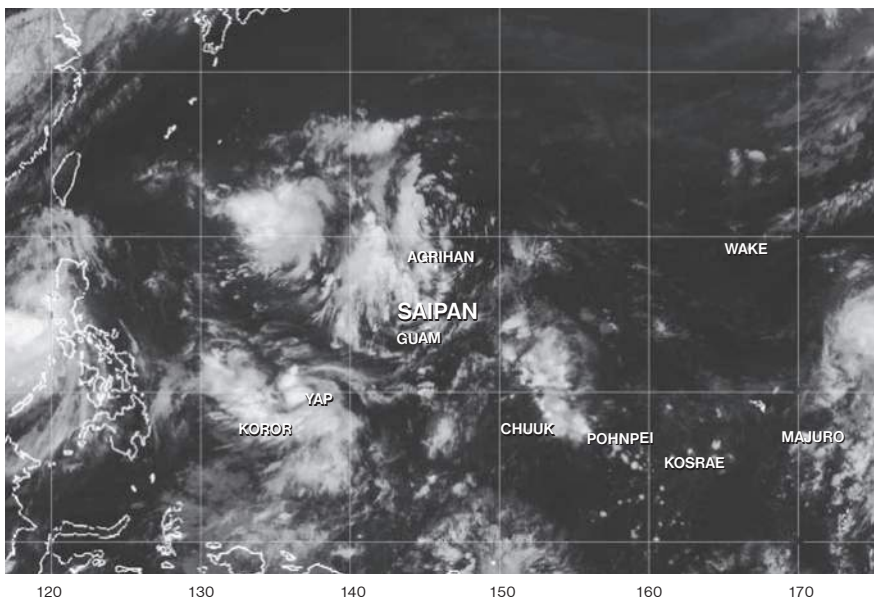
Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Thundershowers	▲82	▼77
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲82	▼79
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲81	▼80
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲82	▼79
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲81	▼79
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲81	▼79
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲83	▼80

Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲55	▼48
Beijing	Sunny	▲101	▼79
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼79
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼74
London	Mostly Sunny	▲82	▼63
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	▲77	▼62
Manila	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼76
Melbourne	Showers	▲52	▼43
Miami	Thundershowers	▲89	▼77
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲82	▼65
Osaka	Thundershowers	▲87	▼73
Paris	Mostly Sunny	▲84	▼67
Pusan	Mostly Cloudy	▲78	▼71
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲90	▼69
Salem	Sunny	▲87	▼53
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲62	▼56
Seoul	Thundershowers	▲84	▼72
Tokyo	Showers	▲83	▼72
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	▲85	▼67

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 2014
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough dips southeastward from 14N130E through weak circulations centered just northwest of Yap at 10N137E and west of Chuuk at 9N146E before turning to the northeast to end near 11N152E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found over Yap and portions of Palau within 140 miles of a line from 12N131E to 7N138E to 3N136E and south of a line from 2N130E to 1N139E. Additional showers and thunderstorms are found northeast of Chuuk within 120 miles of a line from 13N152E to 7N155E. An upper-level trough curves southwestward from 25N148E through a low centered southeast of Iwo To island near 21N146E to 13N140E then continues west-northwestward to beyond 130E at 15N. Scattered showers and thunderstorms are present near and northwest of the Marianas north of a line from 21N133E to 13N141E to 15N146E to 20N147E. A surface trough extends east-northeastward from southeast of Pohnpei at 4N159E to 9N169E then turns northeastward to end near 16N174E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring east of Majuro east of a line from 16N172E to 1N173E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

12:23 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet
6:42 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.6 Feet
11:58 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
6:36 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:55 AM	6:51 PM
Friday	5:55 AM	6:51 PM
Saturday	5:56 AM	6:51 PM
Sunday	5:56 AM	6:51 PM
Monday	5:56 AM	6:50 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	10:49 PM	10:27 AM
Friday	11:34 PM	11:24 AM
Saturday		12:19 PM
Sunday	12:20 AM	1:13 PM
Monday	1:06 AM	2:06 PM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

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- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 18, 2014

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	2:30pm	4:10pm	6, 7 via Rota
UA5078	3:20pm	4:10pm	1, 5
UA5038	3:20pm	4:10pm	2, 4
UA5040	7:05pm	7:55pm	1, 5
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5044	10:50pm	11:40pm	1, 5

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA5039	2:30pm	3:05pm	6, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA5039	3:35pm	4:10pm	6, 7

SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)

DL287	6:05am	11:15pm	2, 6 via NRT

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:05am	8:35am	1, 4, 5, 6
DL297	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm	1, 3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764A	3:30am	7:30am	4, 7
MU764	4:00am	8:00am	1, 5

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:15am	8:55am	3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5070/183	4:15am	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
DL287/473	6:05am	9:50pm	1, 4, 5, 6 via NRT
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:10pm	3 via GUM
UA5039/183	2:30pm	9:10pm	6, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA5038/183	3:20pm	8:45pm	2 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:20pm	8:45pm	5 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:20pm	9:10pm	1 via GUM
UA5038/183	3:20pm	9:10pm	4 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5068/179	8:00am	9:55pm	3 via GUM
UA5068/179	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM
D28009	12:50pm	4:05pm	May 18, 22, 27, June 1, 5, 10, 15, 19, 24, 29, July 3, 8, 13, 17, 22, 27, 31
UA5039/179	2:30pm	9:55pm	6 via Rota-GUM
UA5078/179	3:20pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via GUM
OZ604/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	1:10pm	2:00pm	6, 7
UA5038	1:10pm	2:50pm	2, 4 via Rota
UA5077	2:00pm	2:50pm	1, 5
UA5041	5:45pm	6:35pm	1, 5
UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5043	9:30pm	10:20pm	1, 5

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA5038	1:10pm	1:45pm	2, 4

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA5038	2:15pm	2:50pm	2, 4

PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN

DL298	4:30am	3:00pm	3, 7 via NRT

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	3, 4, 5, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ603	8:50am	2:20pm	1, 3, 5, 7
OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763A	6:50pm	2:30am+1	3, 6
MU763	7:20am	3:00am+1	4, 7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ704/603	12:10am	2:20pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN
DL172/288	7:55am	1:25am+1	3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT
UA190/5077	9:55am	8:05pm	3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5039	10:25pm	2:00pm+1	6 via GUM
UA184/5038	10:25pm	2:50pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota
UA184/5077	10:25pm	2:50pm+1	4, 7 via GUM-Rota
UA184/5041	10:25pm	6:35pm+1	4, 7 via GUM-Rota
UA184/5077	10:25pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 6 via GUM
UA184/5043	10:25pm	10:20pm+1	4, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:30pm	7:30am+1	2 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:30pm	8:05am+1	5 via GUM
UA184/5039	11:30pm	2:00pm+1	5 via GUM
UA184/5077	11:30pm	8:05pm+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
D28008	6:05pm	1:20am+1	May 18, 22, 27, June 1, 5, 10, 15, 19, 24, 29, July 3, 8, 13, 17, 22, 27, 31
UA180/5071	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA180/5039	9:55pm	2:00pm+1	5, 6 via GUM
UA180/5038	9:55pm	2:50pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota
UA180/5077	9:55pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air; D: Dynamic Airways; ORB: OREN AIR; D2: Dynamic Air

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

Business

EEOC toughens workplace protections for pregnant women

WASHINGTON (AP)—Pregnant women have new protections against on-the-job discrimination.

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission has updated 30-year-old guidelines to make clear that any form of workplace discrimination or harassment against pregnant workers by employers is a form of sex discrimination and illegal.

"Despite much progress, we continue to see a significant number of charges alleging pregnancy discrimination, and our investigations have revealed the persistence of overt pregnancy discrimination, as well as the emergence of more subtle discriminatory practices," EEOC Chairwoman Jacqueline A. Berrien said in a statement.

The guidelines prohibit employers from forcing pregnant workers to take leave and acknowledge that "employers may have to provide light duty for pregnant workers." After childbirth, lactation is now covered as a pregnancy-related medical condition.

It's not just women who will benefit.

The guidelines say that when it comes to parental leave, "similarly situated" men and women must be treated on the same terms.

The update comes two weeks after the Supreme Court agreed to consider a case involving the EEOC's duty to try to settle charges of job discrimination before filing lawsuits against employers.

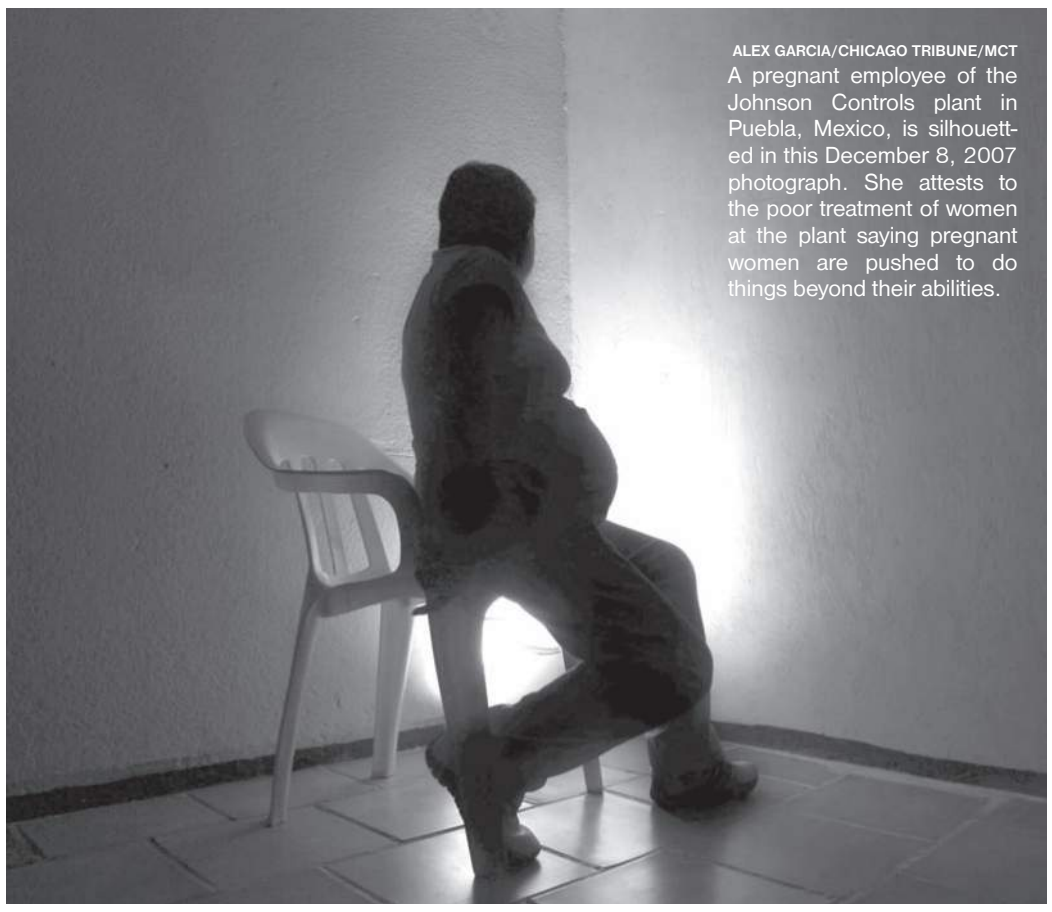
The issue has gained increasing attention and has vexed business groups as the Obama administration ratchets up its enforcement of the nation's anti-discrimination laws.

The latest EEOC data shows a 46 percent increase in pregnancy-related complaints to the EEOC from 1997 to 2011.

In its report, the agency cites specific, real-life examples of what it considers illegal discrimination. It used only first names and did not reveal locations, occupations or employers. Among them:

■ Three months after "Maria" told her supervisor that she was pregnant, she was absent a few days due to an illness unrelated to her pregnancy. When she returned to work, "her supervisor said her body was trying to tell her something" and she was let go.

■ Shortly after Teresa informed her supervisor of her pregnancy, "he met with her to discussed alleged performance problems." Even though Teresa had consistently received outstanding performance reviews during her eight years of employment with the company, she was discharged.



ALEX GARCIA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE/MCT
A pregnant employee of the Johnson Controls plant in Puebla, Mexico, is silhouetted in this December 8, 2007 photograph. She attests to the poor treatment of women at the plant saying pregnant women are pushed to do things beyond their abilities.

■ Birah, a woman from Nigeria, claimed that when she was visibly pregnant with her second child, "her supervisors increased her workload and shortened her deadlines so she could not complete her assignments , ostracized her, repeatedly excluded her from meetings to which she should have been invited, reprimanded her for failing to show up for work due to snow when others were not reprimanded, and subjected her to profanity."

The pregnancy discrimination guidelines, which had last been updated in 1983, spell out for the first time how the Americans With Disabilities Act might apply to pregnant workers. And it emphasizes that any discrimination against female workers based on past or prospective future pregnancies is also illegal.

Protections for pregnant women vary widely around the globe—as does enforcement. Sweden bans discrimination because of pregnancy and requires companies employing more than 25 people to help both men and women combine work and parenting. Egyptian laws give pregnant women the right to work fewer hours and three months' paid leave after birth—requirements women's rights groups say prompt employers to hire men. And in Mexico, laws prohibit discrimination against pregnant women, but there is little enforcement by the government.

The American Civil Liberties Union welcomed the updated U.S. guidelines, which were approved Monday on a 3-2 partisan-line vote by the Democratic-led commission.

"Pregnancy is not a justification for excluding women from jobs that they are qualified to perform, and it cannot be a basis for denying employment or treating women less favorably than co-workers," said Laura W. Murphy, director of the ACLU's Washington Legislative Office.

Debra L. Ness, president of the National Partnership for Women and Families, called the new guidelines "a powerful tool in the effort to eradicate the unlawful and unequal treatment of pregnant women in the workplace."

Joan C. Williams, a law professor at the University of California's Hastings School of Law in San Francisco who testified before the EEOC on pregnancy discrimination, said it is difficult to quantify how many women would be helped by the agency's stronger stance. "I think it will make a really big difference," she said. "This is also the direction the courts have begun to go in, and that's why the EEOC said, `Yeah, that makes sense.'"

Williams, who co-authored a 2011 study called "Pregnant, Poor and Fired," said the main impact may by erecting "very, very, simple and very, very common-sense" guideposts for EEOC investigators, as well as providing strong ammunition for employment lawyers whose clients are victims of such discrimination.

Commissioners Constance Barker and Victoria Lipnic dissented from the decision, saying the commission was overstepping its authority. Both were first appointed by Republican President George W. Bush.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce has been critical of EEOC decisions during the Obama years, and the EEOC matter was no exception. Randel Johnson, the chamber's vice president for labor issues, called it "an agency which often advances questionable enforcement tactics and legal theories."

The Senate is considering a closely related issue: a Democratic-sponsored bill aiming to circumvent the Supreme Court's June 30 "Hobby Lobby" decision to allow private companies to opt out of covering certain kinds of birth control. An attempt by sponsors to force the measure to a vote is expected Wednesday. However, it seems unlikely to draw the 60 votes needed to advance the legislation.

Democrats are seeking to turn the battle into a women's rights issue that can help them at the ballot box in November.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Labor market still needs Fed support, chair says

WASHINGTON (AP)—Despite recent sizable job gains, Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen is signaling that her agency is in no rush to withdraw the massive support it is providing the U.S. economy. Extra caution is warranted, she said Tuesday, given a number of "false dawns" in this recovery when a hoped-for acceleration in growth has failed to materialize. "Although the economy continues to improve, the recovery is not yet complete," she told the Senate Banking Committee, delivering the Fed's semi-annual economic report to Congress. Analysts said that Yellen's remarks indicated that the central bank plans to keep its benchmark short-term interest rate near a record low of zero, where it has been since December 2008, for some time to come.

Tobacco firm Reynolds American to buy Lorillard

RICHMOND, Va. (AP)—Joe Camel is bulking up to take on the Marlboro Man. Camel cigarette maker Reynolds American Inc.'s $25 billion deal to buy Newport maker Lorillard Inc. creates a formidable No. 2 tobacco company in the U.S. behind Marlboro maker Altria. It also creates a powerhouse in menthol cigarettes, which are becoming a bigger part of the business and gives the combined company some breathing room even as people smoke fewer cigarettes every year. The deal announced Tuesday also creates a new major player in the country's tobacco market, the U.K.'s Imperial Tobacco, which is buying some of the companies' other brands including Kool and Winston and instantly becomes the king of e-cigarettes in the U.S.

China growth edges up in a possible sign of recovery

BEIJING (AP)—China's economic growth edged up in the latest quarter and more than 7 million new jobs were created in the first half of the year, easing pressure on communist leaders as they try to prevent a precipitous slowdown in the world's second-largest economy.

Economic growth rose to 7.5 percent over a year earlier in the three months ended June 30 from the previous quarter's 7.4 percent, data showed Wednesday. The first quarter matched a downturn in late 2012 for the slowest rate since the 2008 global crisis.

Communist leaders are trying to steer China toward growth based on domestic consumption instead of trade and investment. But the unexpectedly sharp slowdown raised fears of politically dangerous job losses. Beijing responded with mini-stimulus measures based on higher spending on construction of railways and other public works.

"A lot of the June data looks quite strong, stronger than expected," said economist Julian Evans-Pritchard of Capital Economics. "I think it should vindicate policymakers' approach to targeted measures to stimulate growth."

China's steady decline from the explosive double-digit growth rates of the past decade has had global repercussions, cutting demand for iron ore, copper and other commodities that helped to fuel its expansion.

The latest growth was in line with the ruling Communist Party's 7.5 percent target for the year. Analysts say Chinese leaders are willing to accept even slower growth so long as the economy generates enough new jobs to prevent unrest.

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+5.26	-3.82	-23.03
+0.03%	-0.19%	-0.54%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	1.0693	Hong Kong Dollar	7.7509	Philippine Peso	43.62
British Pound	0.5835	Indian Rupee	60.095	Singapore Dollar	1.2429
Canadian Dollar	1.0756	Indonesian Rupiah	11716	South Korean Won	1030.93
Chinese Yuan	6.2071	Japanese Yen	101.685	Swiss Franc	0.8967
Euro	0.7378	Malaysian Ringgit	3.1883	Taiwan Dollar	29.9975
		New Zealand Dollar	1.149	Thailand Baht	32.12

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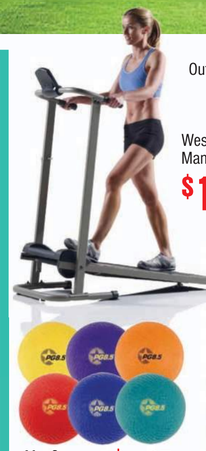

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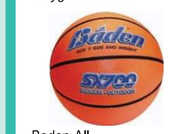

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Nation

Arizona protesters hope to prevent immigrant transfer

AP

Pinal County Sheriff Paul Babeau speaks to the media as protesters gather near the entrance to juvenile facility in an effort to stop a bus load of Central American immigrant children from being delivered to the facility, Tuesday, July 15, 2014, in Oracle, Ariz.

ORACLE, Ariz. (AP)—Protesters carrying "Return to Sender" and "Go home non-Yankees" signs faced off with immigrant rights activists Tuesday in a small Arizona town after a sheriff said a bus filled with Central American children was on its way.

The rallies demonstrated the deep divide of the immigration debate as groups on both sides—and in similar numbers—showed up in Oracle to speak out on the issue.

It turned heated at times, with shouting matches and a group of mariachi musicians getting shoved before the skirmishes were quelled. At one point, protesters temporarily blocked off a bus on the road before realizing it was just a school bus carrying children from a YMCA.

The protests came as the government released new numbers that show how many immigrant families and children have been pouring into the country in recent months. The Border Patrol says 55,420 family members have been caught at the border from October through the end of June, a nearly 500 percent increase from the same period in the previous year. The number includes adults apprehended with their young children, and most of them were caught in the Rio Grande Valley in Texas. In addition, the Border Patrol says 57,525 unaccompanied children have been apprehended through the end of June.

Anger has been spreading in the town of Oracle since Pinal County Sheriff Paul Babeu warned residents last week that immigrant children from Central America caught crossing the border illegally would be placed at the Sycamore Canyon Academy in Oracle. Protesters were hoping to mirror demonstrations in Murrieta, California, when immigrants were taken there recently.

"We are not going to tolerate illegals forced upon us," protester Loren Woods said.

Babeu is credited with stirring up the anti-immigrant protesters via social media postings and a press release Monday and by leaking information about the migrants' arrival to a local activist.

He addressed both sides of the protesters, asking them to remain civil, abide by the law and keep the roads cleared. Immigrant rights activists questioned Babeu about why he is stirring up protesters when he should be bringing order as the county's top lawman.

Babeu said he was simply informing the public and was at the site to make sure the protests on both sides were peaceful.

"All this was done in secrecy, and that's where a lot of people are upset," Babeu said Tuesday. "My concern (is) where's the federal government? Why are they not here? Why did they not hold a town hall to answer some of these questions?"

The academy put out a press release Monday acknowledging that it had an agreement with the Department of Health and Human Services to take in a "small number" of immigrant children from Central America. It did not specify how many and when they would arrive. No children had arrived as of early evening.

A spokesman for U.S. Rep. Raul Grijalva, a Democrat who represents southern Arizona, said the congressman's office was told by the federal government that children would not be arriving Tuesday.

A spokesman for the federal Department of Health and Human Services said the agency would not identify the locations of shelters for migrants to protect their identities and safety.

Journalist released by US Border Patrol

McALLEN, Texas (AP)—Prominent immigration activist and Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Jose Antonio Vargas, who has lived and worked in the U.S. illegally for years, was released by U.S. Border Patrol agents on Tuesday after being detained at a South Texas airport.

In a statement late Tuesday, the Border Patrol said Vargas was arrested at the airport in McAllen after telling an agent he was in the country illegally. Vargas was released on his own recognizance with a notice to appear before an immigration judge.

Vargas

"Mr. Vargas has not previously been arrested by (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) nor has the agency ever issued a detainer on him or encountered him," the statement said. "ICE is focused on smart, effective immigration enforcement that prioritizes the agency's resources to promote border security and to identify and remove criminal individuals who pose a threat to public safety and national security."

A spokeswoman for Define American, Vargas' advocacy group, confirmed his release Tuesday afternoon, but declined to offer more information about his release or whereabouts.

During the current surge in immigration in South Texas, it has been common for the Border Patrol to release people on their own recognizances, with notices to appear in court later. With such notices, people can generally travel throughout the U.S. without being detained again.

Vargas had been visiting McAllen for several days as part of a vigil to highlight the plight of unaccompanied immigrant children coming into the U.S. illegally who have overwhelmed Border Patrol facilities.

But at McAllen/Miller International Airport, Vargas knew he could have problems. Border Patrol agents stand alongside Transportation Security Administration personnel to check documentation—even for domestic flights. Vargas does not have any government-issued U.S. identification and was carrying only a passport issued by his native Philippines and a palm-size copy of the U.S. Constitution.

On Tuesday morning, Vargas tweeted: "About to go thru security at McAllen Airport. I don't know what's going to happen."

US preparing unilateral sanctions on Russia

WASHINGTON (AP)—The United States is considering imposing unilateral sanctions on Russia over its threatening moves in Ukraine, a shift in strategy that reflects the Obama administration's frustration with Europe's reluctance to take tougher action against Moscow, according to U.S. and European officials.

Until now, the U.S. has insisted on hitting Russia with penalties in concert with Europe in order to maximize the impact and present a united Western front. The European Union has a far stronger economic relationship with Russia, making the 28-nation bloc's participation key to ensuring sanctions packages have enough teeth to deter Russia.

But those same economic ties have made Europe fearful that tougher penalties against Russia could boomerang and hurt their own economies. After weeks of inaction, the officials say the U.S. is now prepared to move forward alone if EU officials fail to enact strong sanctions during a meeting Wednesday in Brussels.

The U.S. official cautioned that no final decisions would be made until after the European meeting. The officials insisted on anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the matter publicly by name.

The White House's willingness to punish Russia without European backing comes as the Obama administration faces criticism that its repeated warnings about tougher sanctions are little more than empty threats.

"Sometimes I'm embarrassed for you, as you constantly talk about sanctions and yet, candidly, we never see them put in place," Sen. Bob Corker, R-Tenn., said during a Senate hearing on Ukraine with administration officials last week.

The U.S. and Europe have levied coordinated sanctions on Russian individuals and companies connected to Moscow's alleged destabilization in Ukraine. Obama administration officials argue that those penalties have had an impact on Russia's economy, citing International Monetary Fund statistics showing a downgrade in Russia's growth this year.

Lawyer: Mother of boy left in hot car devastated

By PHILLIP LUCAS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ATLANTA (AP)—A lawyer for a suburban Atlanta woman whose husband was arrested after their son was left for hours in a hot SUV said Tuesday that she is devastated by the boy's death.

Criminal defense attorney Lawrence Zimmerman said Leanna Harris is "living every parent's nightmare" after the death of her 22-month-old son, Cooper.

The woman's husband, Justin Ross Harris, 33, was arrested on charges of murder and child cruelty after the boy's death June 18. The father told police he left his son in the backseat of his SUV for about seven hours after forgetting to drop him off at day care and going to work, investigators in the Atlanta suburb of Cobb County have said.

Leanna Harris has not been charged in the case.

Zimmerman criticized media coverage of her reaction to her son's death, saying speculation over a perceived lack of emotion in the case thus far is similar to what 1996 Olympic bombing hero Richard Jewell faced after an attack that year on the summer games in Atlanta.

Jewell led people away from a suspicious backpack before a blast killed one and left more than 100 people injured. He became the target of intense scrutiny after an unattributed news report said he was the focus of the investigation into the attack. Jewell's name was cleared in 2006 and he died the following year at age 44.

"Newspapers, television and online media have fostered a poisonous atmosphere in which Leanna's every word, action and emotion—or failure to cry in front of a crowd—is scrutinized for some supposed hidden meaning," Zimmerman said.

He added that the media has dug into his client's upbringing, marriage and sex life. Zimmerman also said Leanna Harris has been unable to return to work and she's asking to be allowed to grieve her son privately.

During an hourslong probable cause hearing on July 3, prosecutors said evidence shows Justin Ross Harris had been leading a double life and was sending nude photos with several women—including at least one teenager—even on the day his son died. The couple had two life insurance policies for the toddler, one for $2,000 and one for $25,000. After his son's death, Harris talked with relatives about what they needed to do to file claims, investigators have said.

Asia

Typhoon shifts slightly from Manila, but leaves one dead

AP

A resident carries a tank of liquified petroleum gas as he negotiates a flooded area while Typhoon Rammasun nears suburban Quezon city, Philippines on Wednesday, July 16, 2014.

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Typhoon Rammasun strengthened overnight, leaving at least one person dead and knocking out power in many areas, but its fierce wind shifted slightly Wednesday to spare the Philippine capital, Manila, and densely populated northern provinces from being directly pummeled, officials said.

Still, the typhoon's 150-kilometer (93-mile) wind and blinding 185-kph (115-mph) gusts, brought down trees, electric posts and ripped off roofs across the capital of 12 million people where government offices and schools were closed. While there have been no reports of massive damages and flooding, officials warned the public the danger wasn't over.

"We're telling the people this is not a time to act like toughies because it's still dangerous. There could be storm surges," Alexander Pama, executive director of the National Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council, told reporters.

A woman died after being hit by a fallen electric post in Northern Samar and two men were electrocuted but survived in Camarines Sur. Three fishermen have been reported missing in Catanduanes. The three provinces were lashed by Rammasun after it made landfall in Albay province late Tuesday.

Instead of slamming into Manila, the typhoon veered slightly westward and struck Cavite province just south of the capital and was barreling toward the Bataan Peninsula at mid-morning and was expected to blow toward the South China Sea.

But Rammasun's 500-kilometer (310-mile) wide band of wind and rain still hammered a wide swathe of the capital and northern agricultural provinces, government weather forecasters said.

There were no immediate damage estimates, especially in communities that lost power and telephone connections while being pummeled by the wind and rain.

With last year's massive devastation and deaths from Typhoon Haiyan still in many people's mind, nearly 150,000 people fled from high-risk communities into emergency shelters, officials.

Polangui Mayor Cherilie Mella Sampal said 10,000 of the 80,000 residents in her town in Albay, about 340 kilometers (210 miles) southeast of Manila, were evacuated before the typhoon struck Tuesday. Sampal said she saw the wind topple electric posts and lift roofs off houses.

Sampal said residents were worried after witnessing Haiyan's horrific aftermath in the central Philippines last November.

89 killed in worst Afghanistan bombing since 2001

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—A suicide bomber blew up a car packed with explosives near a busy market and a mosque in eastern Afghanistan on Tuesday, killing at least 89 people in the deadliest insurgent attack on civilians since the 2001 U.S.-led invasion.

The blast destroyed numerous mud-brick shops, flipped cars over and stripped trees of their branches, brutally underscoring the country's instability as U.S. troops prepare to leave by the end of the year and politicians in Kabul struggle for power after a disputed presidential runoff.

Gen. Mohammad Zahir Azimi, the Defense Ministry spokesman, said the bomber detonated his explosives as he drove by the crowded market in a remote town in Urgun district, in the Paktika province bordering Pakistan. Azimi gave the death toll and said more than 40 other people were wounded.

Nearby hospitals were overwhelmed, and dozens of victims were transported over dangerous roads to the capital, Kabul.

Ahmad Shah, a gas station employee who rushed to the site to help, said he loaded dozens of people who were injured or killed into vehicles.

"I saw the smoke, and the town was burning. There were dead bodies everywhere," he said outside a hospital in Kabul.

Associated Press video footage of the aftermath showed mounds of twisted debris and the charred shells of cars flipped over on top of one another. Azimi said more than 20 shops and dozens of vehicles were destroyed.

China ends drilling operations in disputed sea

HANOI, Vietnam (AP)—China on Wednesday moved an oil rig that it had deployed in a section of the South China Sea, triggering a dispute with Vietnam.

Beijing deployed the massive rig in early May close to the Paracel Islands, triggering a furious reaction in Hanoi and the most serious uptick in tensions in the waters in years.

Hanoi demanded Beijing withdraw the rig, and sent ships to the region to try and disrupt the operations. The Chinese move triggered protests in Vietnam and deadly anti-Chinese riots.

Beijing insisted it had done nothing wrong because the waters belonged to it.

The official Xinhua News Agency said Wednesday that the China National Petroleum Corp on Tuesday announced the end of the operation, citing the beginning of the typhoon season.

It said the rig would be relocated to operations close to China's Hainan Island.

Ha Le, deputy director of Vietnam's fisheries resources surveillance department, said China began removing the rig and escorting vessels Tuesday night, and by 8 am Wednesday it was 40 nautical miles northwest of its original location and continuing to move toward Hainan island.

"We don't know what will China do next following the removal of the Haiyang Shiyou oil rig 981," Le said "We will monitor the situation in the East Sea closely and be ready with other law enforcement agencies to defend our sovereignty," referring to the South China Sea.

World

Rush-hour Moscow subway derails; 21 declared dead, some 136 injured

MOSCOW (AP)—A subway train derailed Tuesday deep below Moscow's streets, twisting and mangling crowded rail cars at the height of the morning rush hour. At least 21 people were killed, Russian officials said, and 136 were hospitalized, many with serious injuries.

The Russian capital's airports and transit systems have been a prime target for terrorists over the past two decades, but multiple officials vigorously dismissed terrorism as a possible cause.

The Moscow Metro is world-famous for its palatial interiors with mosaics, chandeliers and marble benches. Park Pobedy, where the derailment occurred, is Moscow's deepest metro station—84 meters (275 feet) below the surface—which made the rescue particularly difficult. The station serves the vast park where Russia's World War II museum is located.

Derailment in Moscow
A rush-hour subway train derailed in Moscow, killing at least 20 people and injuring more than 150.
RUSSIA
Moscow
1 km
1 mile
Park Pobedy station
Deepest metro station at 275 ft. (84 m)
Garden Ring
Moscow
Slavyansky Bulvar station
Kutuzovsky Prospekt
• One of the busiest railways in the world
• 185 miles (300 km), 12 lines and 180 stations
• Carries about 7 million passengers on average workday
Derailment between stations
© 2014 MCT
Source: ESRI, BBC

It was unclear what caused the train to derail. Lines of inquiry included a fault in one of the cars or the sinking of the roadbed, according to Vladimir Markin, spokesman for Russia's top investigative body. He said other officials who said earlier that a power surge triggered an alarm, causing the train to stop abruptly, were incorrect.

Of the 136 people hospitalized, at least 42 were in grave condition, health officials said. One citizen of China and one citizen of Tajikistan were among those killed, Russian news agencies quoted city officials as saying.

Israel: Hamas to pay price for its 'no' to truce

AP

Palestinian Suma Abu Mahsen, 7, stands by a damaged wall of a house following an overnight Israeli missile strike to a nearby transition center for newly released convicts, that was not yet operational, in Rafah, southern Gaza Strip, Tuesday, July 15, 2014.

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP)—Israel resumed its heavy bombardment of Gaza on Tuesday and warned that Hamas "would pay the price" after the Islamic militant group rejected an Egyptian truce plan and instead unleashed more rocket barrages at the Jewish state.

Late Tuesday, the military urged tens of thousands of residents of northern and eastern Gaza to leave their homes by Wednesday morning, presumable a prelude to air strikes there.

Rocket fire killed an Israeli man Tuesday, the first Israeli fatality in eight days of fighting. In Gaza, 197 people were killed and close to 1,500 wounded so far, Palestinian officials said, making it the deadliest Israel-Hamas confrontation in just over five years.

The Egyptian proposal, initially accepted by Israel, had been the first attempt to end the fighting.

It unraveled in less than a day, a sign that it will be harder than before to reach a truce. Hamas does not consider Egypt's current rulers—who deposed a Hamas-friendly government in Cairo a year ago—to be fair brokers.

Violence is bound to escalate in coming days.

458 children rescued from group home in Mexico

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Federal and state police officers raided a group home Tuesday in the western state of Michoacan and rescued 458 children who were forced to beg for money and suffered sexual abuse while being against their will in filthy conditions, Mexico's top prosecutor said.

Attorney General Jesus Murillo Karam said police also rescued 138 adults from the Great Family group home in the city of Zamora.

The group home residents were kept in deplorable conditions, fed rotten food and made to sleep on the floor among rats, ticks and fleas and many of them were never allowed to leave the premises, Murillo Karam said at a news conference attended by top federal investigators and Michoacan Gov. Salvador Jara.

"I'm in utter dismay because we weren't expecting the conditions we found at the group home," Jara said.

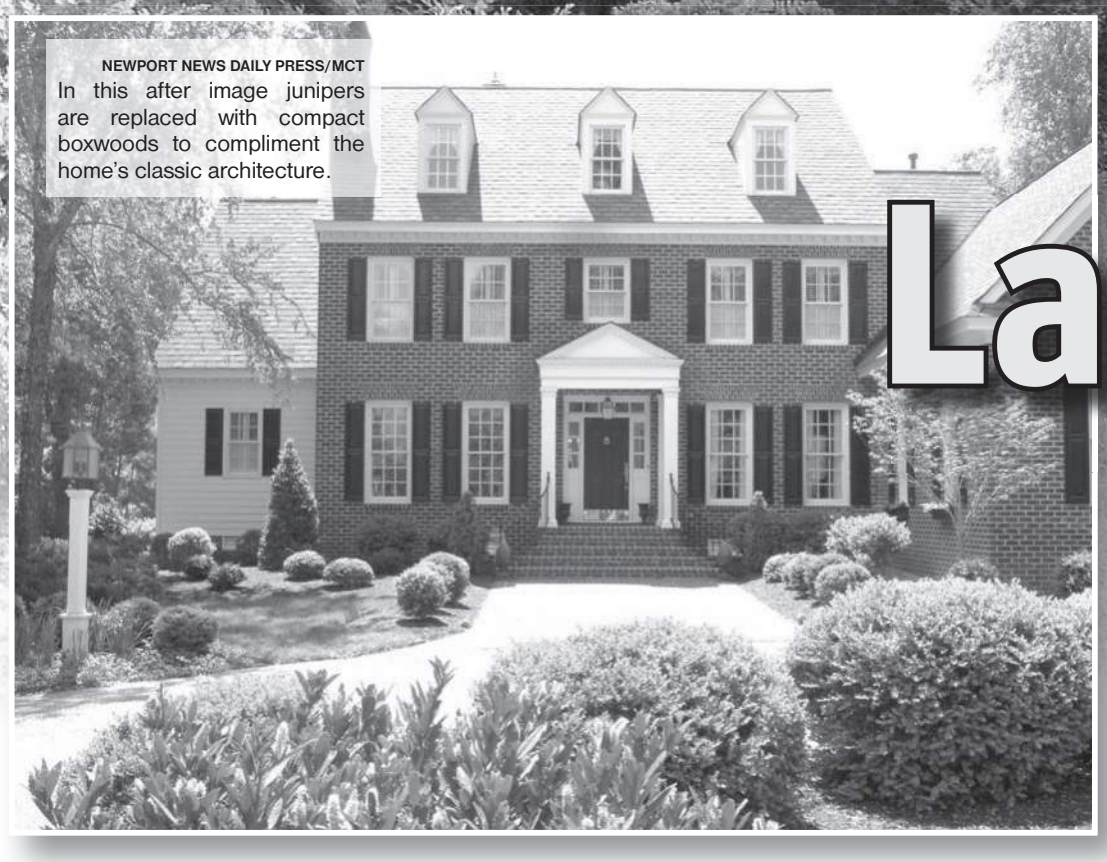
Police detained the home's owner, Rosa del Carmen Verduzco, and eight workers for questioning, Murillo Karam said.

The investigation began after five parents filed complaints last year with authorities because they weren't allowed to see their children at the home, Jara said.

One of the parents was a woman who grew up and gave birth to two children at Great Family, which has been open for 40 years. She was allowed to leave when she was 31-years-old but Verduzco kept the two children, who had been registered under her name, said Tomas Ceron, head of the Criminal Research Agency at the Attorney General's Office.

Environment

NEWPORT NEWS DAILY PRESS/MCT
In this before image, the landscaping is crowded and hides features of the house.



NEWPORT NEWS DAILY PRESS/MCT
In this after image junipers are replaced with compact boxwoods to compliment the home's classic architecture.

Landscapes need renovating just like homes

By KATHY VAN MULLEKOM
DAILY PRESS (NEWPORT NEWS, VA.)

Your landscape is very much like your home's interior décor.

It grows old, sometimes tattered and torn, and needs updating from time to time. Sometimes, plantings need to be completely torn out and totally replaced. Sometimes, old porches, patios and decks just don't work any longer.

Landscape design classes typically teach that a landscape lasts for 10-15 years before it needs at least a partial redo. Sometimes, it's best to just start over from scratch and get the look you've always wanted and never achieved because there was never enough advance planning and an overall plan.

Landscape designers agree.

"When I started my business 21 years ago, there was a housing boom in Williamsburg, Va., and the bulk of my business was landscapes for new construction," says Peggy Krapf of Heart's Ease Landscape & Garden Design, www.HeartsEaseLandscape.com , and a certified designer through the Virginia Society of Landscape Designers, www.vsld.org .

"As time passed it has now become primarily renovating old, existing landscapes."

Most landscapes need renovation for one of the following reasons, according to Krapf:

- Poor initial design, which becomes more obvious as years progress (wrong plants in wrong places).
- Bad workmanship and poorly chosen hardscaping/materials that don't stand the test of time.
- Old age of plants and bad or improper regular pruning through the years.
- New owners who have different landscape taste or style.

"I tell my clients that if it is time to renovate the inside of the house, it is probably time to renovate the outside," she says.

"Once a landscape reaches the 12-15 year point many plants have outgrown their spaces or reached the end of their lifespans. Trees should live many years and should be in places where they have room to grow to their mature sizes. Nothing is sadder than beautiful trees, just reaching their maturity, that need to be removed because they were not planted in the right place to begin with."

Renovating a landscape can be tricky, continues Krapf. Sometimes it is necessary to remove all the plants and begin fresh. Other times some plants can be left in place and pruned or reshaped and mixed with new plants.

"When mixing new with old, I try to purchase larger-sized new plants so there is less contrast between new and old," she says.

Some shrubs can be rejuvenated: cut back hard to remove old growth and stimulate new, younger growth. Many deciduous plants and evergreens such as Japanese hollies, boxwoods, and Chinese hollies can be cut back hard in early spring, and will grow back and be serviceable for many more years. Overgrown evergreens can sometimes be "limbed up" into tree forms to give them new life. Valuable plants can be transplanted to other locations where they have more room to continue to grow.

"I have several clients with beautiful landscapes that are 15 or more years old," she says.

"Regular maintenance and pruning make all the difference.

"An analogy I often use is with children—if you discipline and train them from the time they are young they will generally turn out the way you hoped they would. If you let them become wild with little direction, they get permanently out of control."

At Smithfield Gardens in Smithfield, Va., horticulturists Ann Weber and Jeffrey Williamson encourage homeowners to pay attention to the information on plant tags before buying pieces that will outgrow their spaces, and cause crowding problems earlier than needed.

"Shrubs never pay attention to their tags so a plant may end up being a little larger than you thought," says Williamson. "Some maintenance pruning may be necessary but most gardeners can handle it. No landscape is ever maintenance free."

Eric Bailey of Landscapes by Eric Bailey in Yorktown, Va., agrees you need to allot time for any yard.

Make sure you have the time and resources to maintain your landscape," he says.

"I would say four hours a week depending on the size of your landscape."

To keep your expectations realistic, Bailey recommends you "plan, plan, plan" your landscape, choosing the right plants for the right places. For example, don't plant a white-flowering Natchez crape myrtle that grows 30 feet tall when you have a place that should accommodate an eight-foot-tall plant.

"If plants are selected for the correct sun/shade exposure and planted according to their ultimate size, in three to five years you will have a full lush landscape without overcrowding or the need for excessive trimming or pruning," adds Tish Llaneza of Countryside Gardens in Hampton, Va., www.countrysidegardens.biz .

"But every landscape requires tweaking periodically, whether it's a color scheme change, compensating for the ever increasing shade canopy, or the sudden loss of a shade tree," she says. "Most perennials benefit from root division every three years, and some will even decline in vigor if left to their own devices. Vigorous vines and deciduous shrubs benefit from rejuvenation pruning after years of neglect. Rejuvenation pruning takes three years if done correctly.

"For traditional foundation planting bed, it's sometimes just easier and cost effective to start over from scratch. This allows you to change your bed lines, try new plants and take advantage of new trends in landscape design."

Life & Style

No hints from Hillary Clinton on 'The Daily Show'

NEW YORK (AP)—Hillary Rodham Clinton gave Jon Stewart no hints about whether she will run for president, but acknowledged during Tuesday's taping of "The Daily Show" that the speculation surrounding her possible candidacy has become "a cottage industry."

Stewart introduced Clinton by saying, "She's here solely for one reason: to publicly and definitively declare her candidacy for president of the United States ... I think."

That proved not to be true.

The two moved on to a series of national and international issues Clinton faced as secretary of state, including the violence and tension between Israel and the Palestinians.

"We're really in a terrible dilemma," she said, noting there has been an offer of a cease-fire brokered by Egypt that Israel accepted but that was rejected by Hamas, which controls the Gaza Strip.

"Part of what I see Hamas doing is, their identity comes from being the violent resistance," she said.

Stewart also plugged Clinton's new book, "Hard Choices", calling it an "eyewitness view" to her four years as chief U.S. diplomat.

AP

Former U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton reacts to host Jon Stewart during a taping of "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart," Tuesday, July 15, 2014, in New York.

But he kept returning to everyone's main question: the 2016 presidential race, joking, "I think I speak for everybody when I say, no one cares (about the book), they just want to know if you're running for president."

He then took a different tack to try to get a hint from her about her political plans, asking whether she prefers an office with corners, or without them—like the Oval Office.

She didn't go for that bait either.

The 66-year-old former first lady is well aware of the spotlight on her as a potential presidential hopeful, with pundits parsing her every word and books and articles attacking her past actions.

"I've been amazed at what a cottage industry it is, and so, I kind of expect it would continue, so I'm not really paying a lot of attention," she deadpanned.

However, when asked about her recent statement that her family was "dead broke" when they left the White House, she conceded, "That was an inartful use of words"—given the tens of millions of dollars she, her husband and their daughter Chelsea reportedly have earned with just their speeches.

The memoir of her time as secretary of state is No. 2 on The New York Times' nonfiction best-seller list. The hardcover is right behind the No. 1 best-seller, Edward Klein's "Blood Feud," which details the alleged animosity between the Clinton and Obama families.

Clinton last appeared on "The Daily Show" during her 2008 presidential campaign.

The show will air later Tuesday.

Harper Lee says she didn't OK new book about her

CHICAGO (AP)—The reclusive author of "To Kill a Mockingbird," one of the most acclaimed novels of the 20th century, says she never gave her approval to a new memoir that portrays itself as a rare, intimate look into the lives of the writer and her older sister in small-town Alabama.

Lee

"Rest assured, as long as I am alive any book purporting to be with my cooperation is a falsehood," Harper Lee said in a letter released Monday, just as the new book, "The Mockingbird Next Door: Life with Harper Lee" was about to released. The book was written by Marja Mills, a former Chicago Tribune reporter, who moved next door to Lee and her sister, Alice, in 2004 and remained there for 18 months.

Mills responded in a statement, saying that Lee, known to her friends as Nelle, and her sister "were aware I was writing this book and my friendship with both of them continued during and after my time in Monroeville. The stories they shared with me that I recount in the book speak for themselves,"

Mills' book describes a friendship that blossomed after she first traveled to Alabama in 2001 to write about Lee and Monroeville for the Tribune when "To Kill a Mockingbird" was selected to launch Chicago's One Book, One Chicago program. She describes her surprise when Alice invited her in to chat and her shock when Lee called her later and visited her the next day at her motel. Lee did not participate in the newspaper story.

"We had a great rapport from the start," Mills said in an interview before Lee's letter was made public. "I didn't feel entitled to know more than they wanted to tell me."

In the book, Mills describes how she became part of the Lee sisters' social circle, having coffee regularly with the author at McDonald's, sharing catfish suppers, feeding the ducks and taking long country drives. In the interview, Mills says she had built a trust with the two women from her newspaper story and both Lee, then 74, and Alice, 89, were eager to have their family stories preserved.

"To Kill a Mockingbird," published in 1960, is the story of Atticus Finch, a small-town lawyer, his two young children and the fight against racial injustice in Depression-era Alabama. The Pulitzer Prize-winning novel became a movie starring Gregory Peck, who received an Academy Award.

In her memoir, Mills' quotes Alice Lee on one of the lingering mysteries about her sister: why she never wrote another book.

"When you have hit the pinnacle," Alice Lee said, "how would you feel about writing more?"

Lee's letter is not the first time she has spoken out against "The Mockingbird Next Door." The intensely private author, now 88, issued a statement in 2011 after Penguin Press announced it had acquired the book, saying she had not "willingly participated in any book written or to be written by Marja Mills."

In a statement issued Tuesday, Penguin said it was proud to publish the book.

In her July 14 letter, Lee said she normally wouldn't respond to questions about books about her life but felt compelled to do so. She said Mills had befriended her sister and "it did not take long to discover Marja's true mission; another book about Harper Lee. I was hurt, angry and saddened, but not surprised."

She said she immediately cut off contact with Mills and left town when she was there. Until her stroke in 2007, Lee divided her time between New York and Monroeville.

Star's encounter with stalker described

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Sandra Bullock's recent encounter with a stalker in her home reads like a scene from a scary movie in newly released documents, painting a portrait of an obsessed fan who described himself as her "husband."

Bullock

Joshua James Corbett, 39, was later found to have a stash of illegal weapons including two fully automatic rifles and a machine gun at his home. But he was unarmed when he broke into Bullock's home, affidavits in the case said.

Investigators said the sleeping actress was awakened at 6:30 a.m. on June 8 by banging noises, opened her bedroom door and saw a dark-clad stranger moving toward the stairs.

Bullock, who has portrayed brave, strong women on screen, took quick action, locking the door and summoning police.

"Sandy, I'm sorry!" the man shouted as he was being taken away. "Don't press charges."

Police determined Corbett had scaled the gates of the home and forced open a locked sunroom glass door. He remains in jail awaiting trial and could face more than seven years in prison.

The incident shocked Hollywood and resurrected memories of other stars plagued by stalkers. Actress Rebecca Schaeffer was slain by a stalker in the 1980s and her death led to tightened laws to make stalking a crime and keep stalkers away from their prey.

Madonna, Steven Spielberg, Ryan Seacrest, Paris Hilton and others became stalking victims but were not harmed.

The writings of Corbett, detailed in a search warrant affidavit filed by the Bullock case investigators, revealed the depth of his obsession. Many stalkers have been ordered to undergo psychological counseling as part of their sentences.

The newly released affidavits gave the first detailed account of what happened inside Bullock's home.

Corbett had a letter he had written to the actress the day before the break-in professing his love for her and insisting he was her husband and the father of her son.

"I love you. You are very special to me and without you in my life there is only misery," said the letter....You are my girl!...You are my wife by law, the law of God and you belong to me and me to you."

Corbett revealed he had been watching Bullock's movements, saw her return home from an American Film Institute gala on June 5 and wished he could follow her inside the gates to her house. "I will be waiting by those gates when you decide to open them to me...," he wrote.

At another point, he told the actress, "You are so hot and intelligent, lissome and taught (sic)."

The letter was signed, "Your husband, Joshua James Corbett."

The police affidavit said Bullock arrived home about 1 a.m., showered and went to bed. She was awakened early the next morning by banging noises she thought were coming from her third-floor workout room. The sound then shifted to the living room and she became concerned for her safety, the affidavit said.

Police said Corbett was walking down the stairs when they arrived. He acknowledged breaking in, they said, and told them he was trying to alert Bullock that her security was not impervious to intruders. He said he didn't want to upset Bullock and thought she would not be home.

The question of why Corbett was stockpiling arms at his home and at an airport hangar remained unanswered.

Ioan Gruffudd plays revealing role in 'Forever'

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—Ioan Gruffudd is used to playing extraordinary characters, but his latest comes with a special challenge.

In the "Fantastic Four" movies, he was the brainy shapeshifter Mister Fantastic. In ABC's upcoming series "Forever," the Welsh actor plays a man who is fated to die and be reborn over and over—and each time he comes back he's in the buff.

"It made me appreciate the fact that I had a muscle suit on as Mister Fantastic," Gruffudd, 39, told a TV critics' summer meeting Tuesday. "I'm not getting younger, so there's a commitment to the cause that one has to make" with diet and exercise.

He plays a New York City medical examiner who's keeping his immortality a secret, with Judd Hirsch playing his sole confidante. Alana De La Garza stars as a police detective who shares cases and chemistry with Gruffudd's Dr. Henry Morgan.

Asked if they would welcome the chance to live forever, Gruffudd and De La Garza had quick replies.

"It just feels too painful," he said.

"Outliving your children would just be ...." she said.

"Too much," Gruffudd said, finishing the sentence.

Ioan Gruffudd on stage during the "Forever" panel at the Disney/ABC Television Group 2014 Summer TCA at the Beverly Hilton Hotel on Tuesday, July 15, 2014, in Beverly Hills, Calif.

AP

Viola Davis savors 'messy' humanity in her new role

BEVERLY HLLS, Calif. (AP)—Bless this mess, Viola Davis says.

The much-acclaimed actress stars in the new ABC drama "How To Get Away With Murder" from hit-maker Shonda Rhimes, playing a charismatic, complex and Machiavellian law professor who holds a group of students in thrall.

"I love the fact that she's messy and mysterious and you don't know who she is," Davis told reporters Tuesday at a session of the summer TV critics gathering.

No wonder psychologists and therapists prosper, she went on, explaining, "I think as human beings we are a mess. But a lot of times the narratives we see in TV, film or even theater don't match the mess. I think that's a challenge for any writer, any artist, to match the art with the mess of what we call life. And that's the appeal of this character."

She acknowledged that she has landed many satisfying roles during a career that includes "Traffic," "Antwone Fisher," "Solaris" and "The Help." But there have been other roles, she added, "where I haven't been the show. It's like I've been invited to a really fabulous party only to hold up the wall. And I wanted to be the show!"

There'll be no simple holding-up-the-wall for Davis on "How To Get Away With Murder," she declared. Her show premieres Sept. 25.

Billy Joel's mother, 1978 song's namesake, dies

HICKSVILLE, N.Y. (AP)—Billy Joel's mother, who inspired him to write "Rosalinda's Eyes," has died in New York at age 92.

Rosalind Nyman Joel died Sunday on Long Island, said Claire Mercuri, a spokeswoman for the singer and songwriter.

"Rosalinda's Eyes," from Joel's 1978 album "52nd Street" was a tribute to his mother, who raised him alone after divorcing his father, Howard Joel, in 1957.

The lyrics include the words: "I've got music in my hands; The work is hard to find; But that don't get me down; Rosalinda understands."

Rosalind Joel worked in a clerical capacity for various businesses near her home in Hicksville and supported a number of charities.

Born in Brooklyn to English immigrants, she met her husband in 1942 at a City College musical production and married him three years later. Billy Joel was born in 1949. The couple later adopted Judy, the daughter of Rosalind's late sister Muriel.

Billy Joel endowed the Rosalind Joel Scholarship for the Performing Arts at City College in 1986.

In lieu of flowers, the family requested that donations be made to The Little Shelter animal rescue and adoption center in Huntington, Long Island.

This undated photo provided by billyjoel.com shows the mother of Billy Joel, Rosalind Nyman Joel, who inspired the singer-songwriter to write "Rosalinda's Eyes."

AP

'Rocky' musical knocked down on Broadway

NEW YORK (AP)—The Broadway musical "Rocky" is hanging up its gloves after being battered at the box office.

Producers said Tuesday that the show will play its final performance at the Winter Garden Theatre on Aug. 17, after playing 28 previews and 188 regular performances.

Based on the Oscar-winning 1976 film by Sylvester Stallone, the musical features a score by "Ragtime" veterans Stephen Flaherty and Lynn Ahrens, and a story by Thomas Meehan, who wrote "Hairspray." Alex Timbers directed.

The musical stays close to the film, which charted the rise and romance of amateur boxer and debt collector Rocky Balboa, who gets his shot against an undefeated heavyweight champ. Andy Karl starred as the hero.

The musical never took off after mixed to poor reviews, despite a spectacular final few minutes when the boxing ring is lowered onto the first few rows. It broke the $1 million-mark only once and lately was making only half its $1,263,688 potential.

The show earned four Tony Award nominations but took home only a scenic design award.

The closing notice comes a day after "Holler If Ya Hear Me," a musical that that uses Tupac Shakur songs, announced it would close on Sunday after finding little love at the box office.

Daughter's rep: Casey Kasem's body still unburied

SEATTLE (AP)—A spokesman for Casey Kasem's daughter says the famous radio host's unburied body remains at a funeral home in Tacoma, Washington, a month after his death.

Danny Deraney, publicist for Kerri Kasem, says Kasem's children from his first marriage hope he will be buried at Forest Lawn cemetery in Glendale, California, as he wished.

Kasem died June 15 at a hospital in Washington state. Deraney says the celebrity's second wife, Jean Kasem, has the rights to his body but has not yet arranged for him to be buried.

Hospital spokesman Scott Thompson with St. Anthony Hospital says Kasem's wife collected his remains from the hospital after he died, but Thompson did not know what arrangements she made.

A call to Jean Kasem's attorney was not immediately returned Tuesday.

Reader reports happy ending to engagement ring dilemma

DEAR ABBY: On July 26, 2011, you posted an answer to "Jittery Future Bride in Boston." I am that woman. I had asked you how to get my boyfriend of five years to use my deceased grandmother's ring as an engagement ring.

I followed your advice and told my boyfriend-at-the-time that I wanted to use a family ring. I spoke with my father about it and checked with my sister to see if she would mind if I used it.

We got engaged seven months ago, and my now-husband told me he had been hoping to take the stone from my paternal grandmother's ring, a stone from my maternal grandmother's ring and one from his family to make a new "joining of the families" ring. We haven't made it yet, but we all look forward to the special meaning that it will embody. We even plan to make a new setting out of the old setting. It's a fairy-tale ending.

BLUSHING BRIDE IN BOSTON

DEAR BLUSHING BRIDE: Actually, it's more like a fairy-tale beginning. I love the idea. Thank you for letting me know how things turned out. Not many of my readers take the time to do that. I wish you and your husband a lifetime of happiness together.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: The mother of a friend of mine died recently. I offered my condolences, and since then I haven't been the same.

I am nine months pregnant, and even though I should be excited and celebrating the anticipated arrival of our baby, all I can think about is that my mother is going to die one day. She's 52, healthy and happy, but I can't get it out of my mind. I have become a different person, crying at the most trivial things and often panicking that Mom's OK. I don't think I could make it through if anything happened to her.

Dwelling on this is affecting my relationship with my husband and my friends. How do I stop obsessing over this?

ANXIOUS IN ALBUQUERQUE

DEAR ANXIOUS: A discussion with your OB/GYN would be helpful. By the last months of pregnancy, a woman's body is swimming in hormones. Those increased hormone levels have been known to have a profound effect on a woman's emotions.

The solution to your problem may be as simple as understanding that once your baby arrives and your hormones return to normal, you will be back on a more even keel. If that doesn't happen, you may have to talk with a mental health professional—although I doubt that will be necessary. In the meantime, your mother is healthy, happy and about to be a grandmother, so dwell on the positive.

■■■

DEAR READERS: A thought for the day: The best exercise in the world is to bend down and help someone up.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

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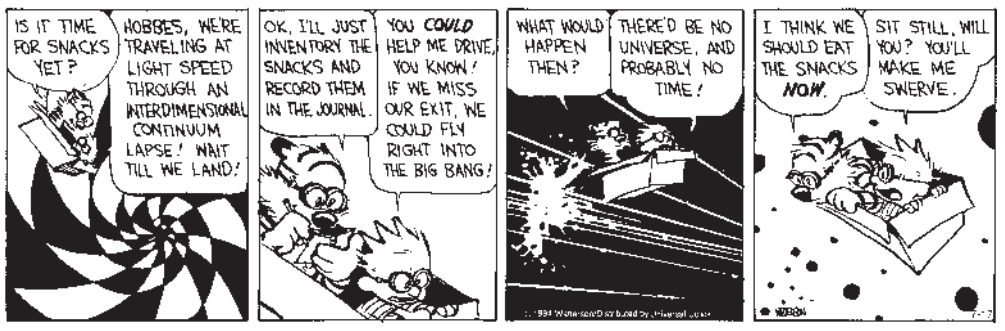
To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds)

Pastimes

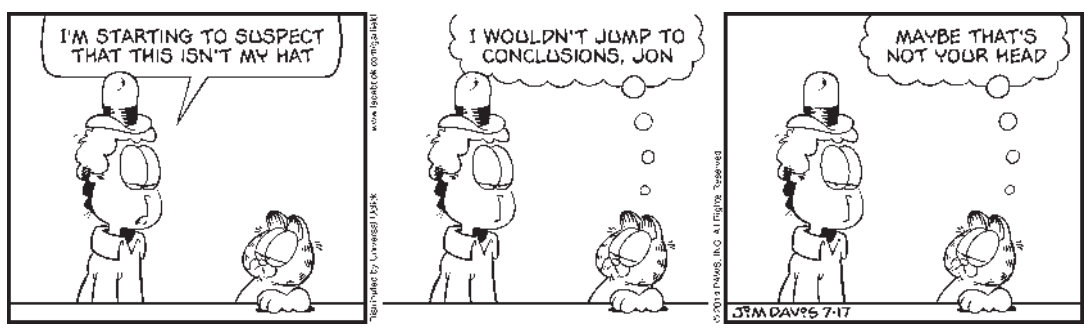
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


IS IT TIME FOR SNACKS YET?
HOBBES, WE'RE TRAVELING AT LIGHT SPEED THROUGH AN INTERDIMENSIONAL CONTINUUM LAPSE! WAIT TILL WE LAND!
OK, I'LL JUST INVENTORY THE SNACKS AND RECORD THEM IN THE JOURNAL.
YOU COULD HELP ME DRIVE, YOU KNOW! IF WE MISS OUR EXIT, WE COULD FLY RIGHT INTO THE BIG BANG!
WHAT WOULD HAPPEN THEN?
THERE'D BE NO UNIVERSE, AND PROBABLY NO TIME!
I THINK WE SHOULD EAT THE SNACKS NOW.
SIT STILL, WILL YOU? YOU'LL MAKE ME SWERVE.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis



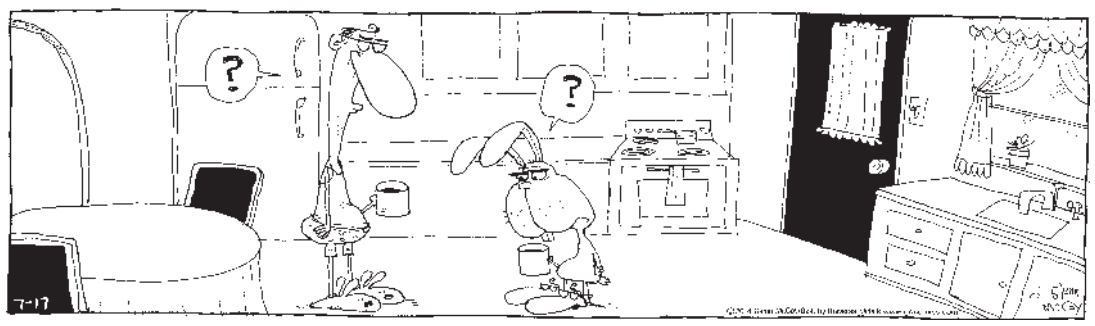
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

CLAYTON'S RIGHT ABOUT THE TATTOO. I COULD TOTALLY GET ONE IF I WANT.
IF IT MAKES YOU HAPPY, GO FOR IT.
I JUST WORRY IT WOULD DETRACT FROM MY NATURAL SEXINESS.
THIS IS WHERE YOU SAY SOMETHING.
NOT GONNA LIE. I'M STILL PROCESSING THAT ONE.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

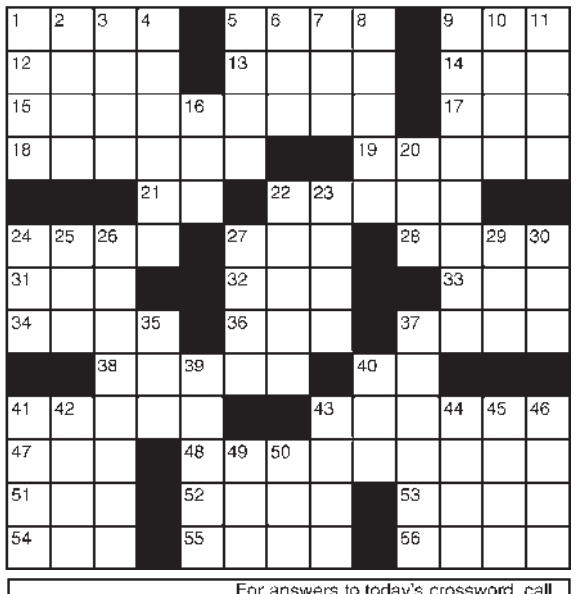
ACROSS
1 Gentle soul
5 Film sample
9 Wrestling victory
12 Nastase of tennis
13 Golf target
14 Inseparable
15 Field event
17 Depressed
18 Put into words
19 Representative
21 French article
22 "The Da Vinci Code" monk
24 Spouse
27 Prohibit
28 Dance lesson
31 Piercing tool
32 Big fuss
33 Past
34 Wander
36 Triumph
37 Item on stage
38 "It Happened One Night" star
40 Common Latin abbr.
41 Granny Smith, e.g.
43 Got a goal
47 — -Magnon
48 Amundsen's destination
51 "2001" computer
52 Gaelic
53 Pork cut
54 CBS logo
55 Abound
56 Stretches (out)

DOWN
1 Osculation tools
2 Greatly
3 Actress Kunis
4 Scarab bug
5 African nation
6 Bud's partner
7 Under the weather
8 "Loves me (not)" determinant
9 Mariners' guide
10 Aware of
11 Small salamander
16 Victory sign
20 Petrol
22 Miss Hawkins of Dogpatch
23 Strong metal
24 Kids' card game
25 — Jima
26 Perch in a 1920s fad
27 Weep loudly
29 Id counterpart
30 Burst
35 — de mer
37 Pop culture magazine
39 Surround
40 "— bin ein Berliner"
41 Rue the run
42 Ask God
43 Goblet feature
44 Castle
45 Writer Wiesel
46 Hideaways
49 Tramcar load
50 Exploit

Solution time: 25 mins.

F	O	B	S	■	W	A	D	■	A	M	A	S
A	M	A	H	■	E	L	I	■	M	O	L	E
C	A	K	E	W	A	L	K	■	B	O	O	N
T	R	A	F	B	F	K	■	F	A	R	N	F	D
■	■	■	■	A	V	E	■	S	_	O	W	■	■
B	U	S	■	E	N	D	■	P	S	A	L	M
A	S	I	F	■	S	O	S	■	E	L	I	A
R	A	D	I	O	■	O	P	T	■	K	R	G
■	■	E	L	L	A	■	E	O	S	■	■	■
H	O	W	L	E	D	■	N	O	O	S	E	S
A	L	A	I	■	D	U	C	K	W	A	L	K
R	I	L	E	■	C	K	E	■	E	L	O	I
I	N	K	S	■	D	E	R	■	D	E	N	S

Yesterday's answer 7-17



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Luke Bryan, 38; Jason Clarke, 45; David Hasselhoff, 62; Donald Sutherland, 79.

Happy Birthday: You'll be determined and anxious to get things done, but impulses must be controlled if you want to reach your goals without setbacks. Use your insight and focus on your dreams as well as the influence and effect you will have on those around you. Harmony will be the key to reaching your destination successfully. Live, love and laugh. Your numbers are 7, 13, 24, 28, 31, 39, 46.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Don't let your emotions stand between you and a good relationship decision. Sharing costs or lowering your overhead will buy you the freedom and good fortune to do more of the things you enjoy most. Plan a trip for two. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Keep an open mind when listening to the concerns of others. Offering simple but effective solutions will ensure you get the same respect in return. Don't let your emotions show, or someone will spot your vulnerability and use it against you. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Put your energy into doing a good job and helping others. The changes you bring about will be commendable, but not everyone will agree with your methods. Appeal to the emotional side of those trying to interfere with your plans. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Your intuition will guide you, but don't expect smooth sailing. Meddling can be expected and must be handled with professionalism if you want to avoid a disagreement that can hinder your reputation. Stay calm and proceed with caution. ✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Jump into action and make things happen. Take control and do your own thing. You'll gain respect, attract attention and be acknowledged for what you accomplish. Someone is likely to challenge you. Stand tall and proceed with grace and dignity. ✪✪✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Don't let impulsiveness lead to a costly move. Investments will not be as good as they appear. Control your emotions when it comes to money, health and legal matters. Keep a calm disposition and refuse to let anyone take advantage of you. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Participate in an activity that offers positive results. Doing something special with someone you love will help you bond and set the groundwork for a better relationship. Strive for equality and you'll achieve compatibility. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Explore new people, places and activities. Keep your emotions in check and look at your options. A trip will lead to new prospects and plans for the future. Don't be afraid to take an unusual path. Speak up and move forward. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Wear your heart on your sleeve. Show the ones you love how much you care. Do something that will make your home more entertaining and add to your assets. Love is in the stars, and romance will improve your personal life. ✪✪✪

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Keep a low profile. Listen carefully to what others say and be observant of what's going on around you. Avoid confrontations and discord. Focus on family, important relationships and making your life better, not more complicated. ✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Opportunities are within reach. Take a look around you and do what you can to take advantage of a job or financial investment that comes your way. Love is on the rise, and celebrating with someone special will bring you closer together. ✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Do something creative or share your ideas with someone who inspires you. You will be able to resolve a pending legal, financial or medical matter if you can reach a decision that you are comfortable with. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are unpredictable and forward-thinking. You are intense and aggressive.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

			2		3			
	1						9	
		6	5		4	2		
6		2				5		7
				5				
9		4				6		2
		9	4		6	1		
	8						3	
			1		7			

Difficulty Level ★★★ 7/17

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

4	8	3	1	2	9	5	6	7
6	7	9	4	5	3	2	1	8
1	5	2	7	6	8	3	4	9
7	9	1	6	4	5	8	2	3
2	4	5	3	8	1	9	7	6
8	3	6	2	9	7	4	5	1
9	6	7	5	3	2	1	8	4
3	2	4	8	1	6	7	9	5
5	1	8	9	7	4	6	3	2

Difficulty Level ★★★ 7/17

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

TUCKING YOUR KIDS IN AT NIGHT **Solution: 7 letters**

C	B	Y	H	G	R	H	Y	M	E	S	R	E	V	T
U	A	O	N	Y	N	E	M	I	T	D	E	B	W	H
D	L	L	N	O	P	I	H	C	R	O	O	N	O	E
D	L	R	M	D	M	N	N	T	H	B	R	L	H	R
L	O	O	E	I	I	R	O	W	O	I	O	T	S	A
E	N	R	V	B	N	N	A	T	A	M	L	O	E	P
V	G	E	Ⓢ	I	M	G	G	H	I	Y	E	D	K	E
I	T	H	Ⓞ	D	N	E	C	U	B	C	N	D	O	U
T	N	T	Ⓝ	L	N	G	M	L	S	R	O	L	J	T
I	E	A	Ⓖ	T	N	U	A	E	A	G	T	E	M	I
T	M	F	L	I	L	N	O	E	R	S	U	R	U	C
E	E	E	K	P	K	A	L	S	H	U	S	H	S	A
P	V	C	O	E	B	A	S	L	E	E	P	I	I	R
E	O	E	T	M	E	L	O	D	Y	B	A	B	C	O
R	M	Y	G	N	I	G	N	I	S	C	I	R	Y	L

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Asleep, Baby, Bedtime, Blanket, Bonding, Book, Calming, Carol, Child, Classic, Croon, Cuddle, Father, Gentle, Harmony, Hold, Hugs, Hush, Hypnotic, Jokes, Learn, Long, Loving, Lyrics, Melody, Mother, Movement, Music, Poem, Remember, Repetitive, Rhyme, Rocking Chair, Show, Singing, Song, Sounds, Therapeutic, Toddler, Tone, Verse, Yawning

Yesterday's Answer: Singapore

To purchase the **WONDERWORD MILLENNIUM SERIES #1**, order online at www.WonderWordBooks.com. (Contains 100 puzzles.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

WHATZIT Solution: Checkout counter

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Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

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Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in classified section

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(1)SALES MANAGER

Must be college graduate and have minimum of 5 years experience in communication business. Must have the knowledge in managing daily business operation, handling the administrave, sales and treasury. Proficient in verbal and written communication skills. Computer literate and expertise in Microsoft office applications.

(4)ELECTRONIC TECHNICIAN

Must have at least 5 years work experience in communication business. Knowledge and expertise in programming and repair of iDen communication handsets. Must have experience in working on telecommunications field equipment and structures. Computer literate and must have good communication skills.

Interested applicants can send resume to
Choice Radio, Inc.
P.O. Box 501750 Saipan, MP 96950

Saipan Tribune, Inc. is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following positions:

Accountant
Associate's Degree in Finance or Accounting with at least 3 years work-related experience in general accounting procedures with emphasis on receivables and payable management. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 FICO system and MS Excel, Word and PowerPoint software. Must be able to work under time pressure and must work flexible hours. CPA not required.

Accounting and Circulations Manager
College degree with financial management major and 3 years of progressive financial management and newspaper circulation experience. Minimum of 5 years experience in directing the preparation of financial reports and implementing cash management and newspaper circulation activities. Excellent communication and strong interpersonal skills to manage a work team and independent contractors. Proficient in the use of SAP R3 Financial and Controlling (FICO) system and Microsoft software. CPA not required.

Associate Editor
Associates degree in Journalism, Creative Writing, English, or any other related course with at least 5 years experience, including newsroom management, story evaluation, and production. Must have strong rewriting, headlining, and proofreading skills and must be able to meet tight deadlines. Preferably with an extensive experience in sports writing.

Circulations Coordinator
Associates degree with a minimum of 2 years progressively responsible work experience. Requirements include professional customer service and good driving skills. Must be able to routinely lift and move bundles of newspapers up to 50 lbs.

Graphic Designer (3)
Associate's degree in Graphic Design or other related field. Minimum of 3 years work experience doing computer graphics and newspaper layout. Proficiency in Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator and Adobe InDesign is a must. Must be familiar with offset printing process, computer peripherals, and Mac operating system. Strong organizational and self-management skills, including the ability to multi-task and prioritize are required. Can work flexible hours, weekends, and holidays, depending on demand.

Managing Editor
Associates degree in Journalism, Creative Writing, English, or any related course. At least 8 years progressive journalism and newspaper management experience with a strong story evaluation and production background. Must have rigorous proofreading skills and able to meet tight deadlines. Knows how to use InDesign or Quark Express and must be adept in the various technical aspects of newspaper publishing.

Reporter (3)
Associates degree in Journalism, Creative Writing, English, or any related course; At least 3 years work related experience; Above-average writing skills and a competent grasp of grammar and syntax; With rigorous standards for accuracy and detail; Ability to work within deadlines and in a stressful environment; Knowledgeable in all types of writing, including news and features; With photography skills.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at Saipan Tribune, Inc. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Friday, July 25, 2014.

Saipan Tribune, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

MAR PAC Inc. EST. 1973

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
Marianas Pacific Dist., Inc. is looking for highly motivated and experienced individuals to work as

Front Desk Clerk

- Good Oral and Written Communications Skills
- Computer literate with proficiency in Microsoft Word, Power Point, Excel and Outlook
- Must be well organized and professional
- Must be detail & deadline oriented
- Must have knowledge of clerical and administrative procedures and systems such as filing and record keeping
- Must be able to operate standard office equipment such as printers, fax and copier machines
- Must be able to work Evenings/Overtime if needed
- Must be 18 yrs of age or older

MarPac Dist., Inc offers competitive salaries commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Applications may be picked up and submitted at the MARPAC office located in Gualo Rai Village – Saipan. Deadline of submission is on July 18, 2014.

NO TELEPHONE CALLS PLEASE.

As condition of Employment, MARPAC requires proof of identity and eligibility to work in the CNMI. Police and Court Clearance required and pre-employment drug testing is mandatory.

MARPAC Dist., Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer

EMPLOYMENT

1 Farmer/Aquaculture - 2 years experience preferred. Please call 989-1170 or submit resume to Matsumoto Trust at P.O. Box 5057 CHRB Saipan, MP 96950.

Solomon Salon is looking for 2-All Around Beauticians. 2 yrs. exp. Email resume to susansantoscastro@gmail.com

(1) Operations Manager $10.00/hr. Bachelor's degree and at least 5 yrs experience in construction industry required.

(2) Construction/Maintenance workers. Extensive knowledge in masonry, plumbing, electrical and carpentry work. Can read blue print and can work w/o supervision. Able to lift heavy blocks and flexible in work schedule. Send resume to PO Box 503317 Saipan or email to noel96950@yahoo.com. GMA Corp.

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- Attend a hemodialysis training program
- Three year hemodialysis experience preferred
- Must be CCHT certified by the Nephrology Nursing Certification Commission
- English Language skills – proficient in spoken, written and comprehension
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
- In-Service train with Baxter Phoenix Machine
- Experience with Ameriwater Bicarbonate distribution system
- Flexible with time schedule

(01) Licensed Practical Nurse
- Must pass NCLEX-LPN and current CNMI LPN License
- Attend a hemodialysis training program
- One to four years hemodialysis experience or related field
- English Language skills – proficient in spoken, written and comprehension
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
- In-service train with Baxter Phoenix Machine
- Experience with Ameriwater bicarbonate distribution system
- Flexible with time schedule.

Interested applicants must submit resume or pick up an application at St. Jude Renal Care Facility, Inc., in Chalan Kiya, Saipan. Deadline to submit an application will be on Thursday, July 31, 2014 by 4:00pm. For more information, please call Judy Arriola at (670) 234-2905 ext. 124.

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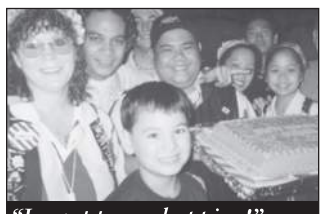

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- Maintain all of company's computer systems to include computer hardware, computer software, and computer network and advance server skills.
- Oversees medical billing department utilizing specialized computer software.
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- At least two to five years experience
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- Certification in basic cardiopulmonary resuscitation

Interested applicants must submit resume or pick up an application at Saipan Health Clinic located at Chalan Kiya, Saipan. Deadline to submit an application will be on 07/25/2014 at 4:00p.m. For more information, please call Judy Arriola at (670) 234-2903 ext. 124.

St. Jude Renal Care Facility, Inc.

Job Vacancy Announcement

(04) REGISTERED NURSE
- Must pass NCLEX-RN and Current CNMI RN License
- Attended a hemodialysis training program
- Must hold a degree in Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- One to five years hemodialysis experience or related field
- English Language skills-Proficient in verbal, written and comprehension
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
- Certified Nephrology Nurse (CNN) – Preferred
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- Experience with Ameriwater bicarbonate distribution system
- Must be flexible with time schedule

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- High school graduate or equivalent
- Must have a valid driver's license

(02) WATER TREATMENT TECHNICIAN
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- Knowledge of the theory fluid dynamics
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- Be familiar with infection control of hemodialysis facilities
- Be familiar with safety and life safety policies
- Pass the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency text for certified water treatment and distribution operators level II
- Understand the plumbing code and plumbing techniques
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Interested applicants must submit application or resume to St. Jude Renal Care Facility Inc., at Chalan Kiya, Saipan.
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Wade signs two-year deal with Heat

MIAMI (AP)—Dwayne Wade signed a new contract with the Heat on Tuesday. It's a two-year deal, the second of those seasons a player option, said a person familiar with the situation. The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because neither side announced terms.

''I am proud to have spent every single day of my career as a member of the Miami Heat and to have brought three championship titles to this great city,'' Wade said in a statement. ''I've been here through the good times and the hard times. I have confidence in the Miami Heat organization and the team they are building.''

Earlier Tuesday, Wade tweeted ''Home Is Where The Heart Is... My Home,My City,My House'' and attached a photo of himself standing below the three NBA championship banners that hang at Miami's home arena.

Financial terms were not announced, though it's expected Wade's salary for next season will not reach the $20.2 million he would have made under his previous contract.

Heat President Pat Riley confirmed that Wade again bought into the Heat mantra of sacrifice. The contract he signed four years ago left millions on the bargaining-room table, in part to make the deals with LeBron James, Chris Bosh and Udonis Haslem happen.

''Dwyane has been the franchise cornerstone for this team since the day he arrived 11 years ago,'' Riley said. ''He has shown his commitment to the Heat many times over the course of his career and has always been willing to sacrifice in order to help build this team into a champion. This time is no different.''

Wade's return was expected, yet still represents a huge win for Miami during free agency - especially since it comes less than a week after James left the Heat after four seasons and returned to the Cleveland Cavaliers.

So now, what was the ''Big 3'' is a ''Big 2.'' Bosh is in the process of finishing a $118 million, five-year contract with Miami.

Also Tuesday, the Heat signed Luol Deng to a two-year, $20 million deal, which was agreed to over the weekend.

''Luol Deng is one of the most important free agent signings that we have ever had in the history of the franchise,'' Riley said. ''He is a proven All-Star and quintessential team player, both as a scorer, as well as an All-NBA defender. He brings the attitude of a warrior and competes every single night against the very, very best.''

Miami also announced the signing of small forward James Ennis, who has been one of the team's summer-league standouts this year. Ennis was the 50th pick in the 2013 draft and spent last season playing in Australia.

Wade is entering his 12th Heat season and is the franchise's all-time leader in games, points, assists and steals. He and Haslem, who is also expected to complete a new two-year contract with Miami in the coming days, are the only players to appear on all three of the Heat teams that won NBA championships in 2006, 2012 and 2013.

He was limited to 54 games last season, in large part because of a maintenance program designed to limit wear and tear on his knees. But when he was on the floor, he was effective - shooting a career best 54.5 percent and averaging 19.0 points.

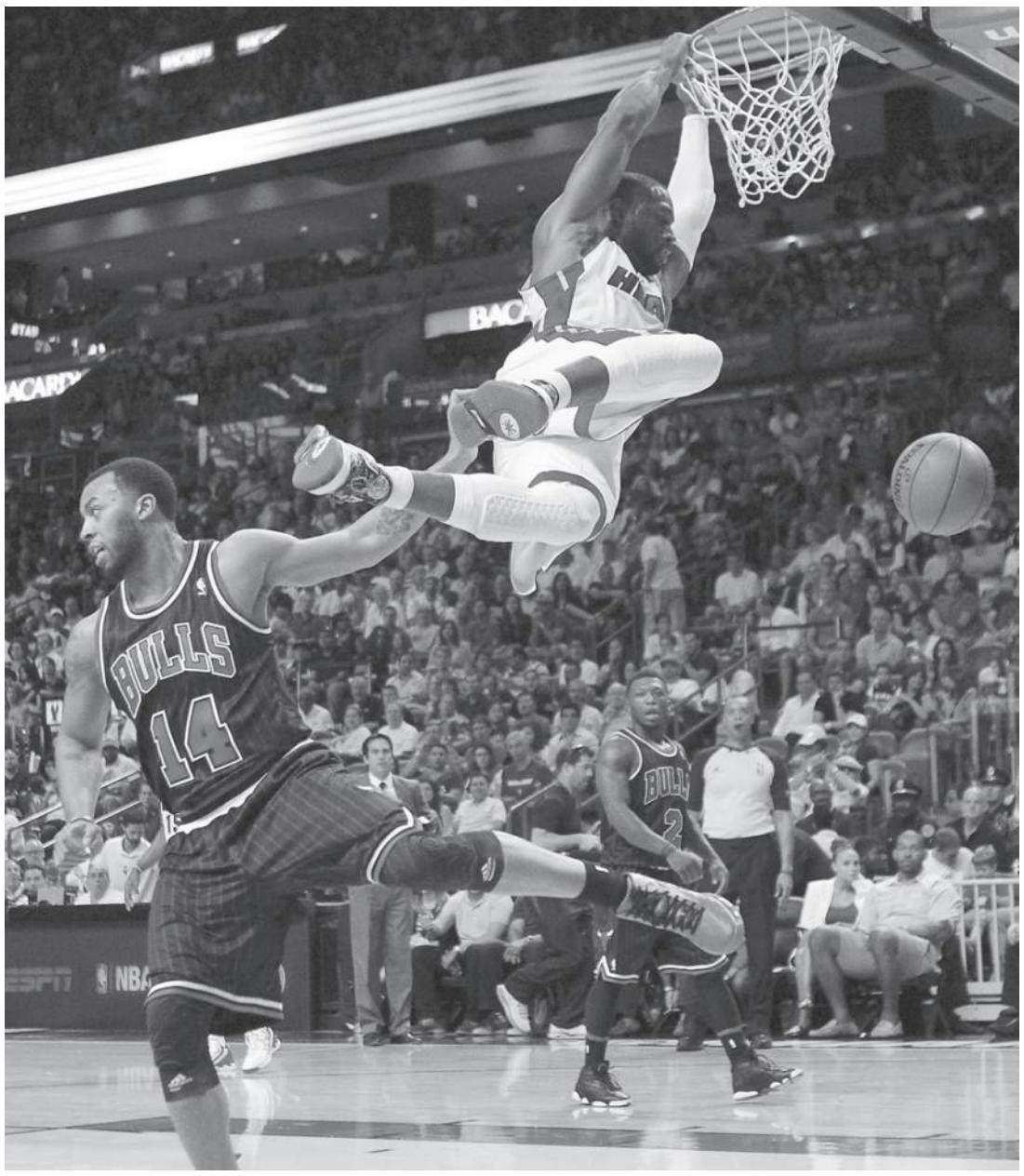
With James gone, Wade likely won't have the luxury of resting as much this season.

He's averaged 24.3 points for his career, 16th-best in NBA history and fifth-best among active players with at least seven seasons. And only seven other players in league history have as many points (17,481), rebounds (3,605), assists (4,301), steals (1,262) and blocked shots (696) as Wade has posted so far in his career.

Wade could have lobbied for more money or insisted on more years. But the Heat are positioning themselves to have as much flexibility as possible in 2016, a similar approach to what brought the ''Big 3'' together in 2010, and Wade's deal helps them greatly in that regard.

Wade still has a hectic summer ahead. There's an upcoming marriage to actress Gabrielle Union, the ongoing building projects at the home he's been remodeling for some time, and the annual fantasy camp that he hosts.

His biggest order of business, however, is now complete.



AP

In this April 14, 2013 file photo, Miami Heat's Dwyane Wade dunks over Chicago Bulls' Daequan Cook (14) during the second quarter of an NBA basketball game in Miami.

Nibali now strong favorite to win Tour de France

BESANCON, France (AP)—With defending champion Chris Froome and two-time winner Alberto Contador out of the race, the path is wide open for Vincenzo Nibali to become the first Italian to win the Tour de France since the late Marco Pantani in 1998.

The French have waited even longer for a champion—the last was Bernard Hinault way back in 1985—but with three riders in the top six places, hopes are growing of at least a first podium place since climber Richard Virenque finished second in 1997.

After Tuesday's rest day, the race resumes with Stage 11 on Wednesday, followed by arduous mountain stages on Friday and Saturday which will reveal the genuine contenders.

These are where Nibali's climbing skills could set him apart, and give him a chance to fully stamp his authority on the race.

There are five days of hard climbing ahead, starting with Friday's 197.5-kilometer (122.4-mile) trek from Saint-Etienne to Chamrousse, which ends with a huge ascent of 18 kilometers (11.2 miles).

As for Nibali's rivals, Contador broke his shin in a violent fall in Monday's 10th stage and Froome pulled out on stage 5 with a broken wrist.

''I'm not happy about what happened to Alberto and Chris,'' the 29-year-old Nibali said. ''The climbs would have been better and more spectacular for everyone.''

Nibali, who won the Spanish Vuelta in 2010 and the Giro d'Italia in 2013, is 2 minutes, 23 seconds ahead of Australian Richie Porte and 2:47 clear of Spaniard Alejandro Valverde, who won the Vuelta five years ago.

Three Frenchmen are within four minutes of Nibali - Romain Bardet, Tony Gallopin and Thibaut Pinot. None has come close to a podium place on a Grand Tour, although the 23-year-old Bardet and the 24-year-old Pinot have strong climbing skills.

''We've got to stay calm and study the situation,'' Nibali said. ''The danger can come from anywhere.''

Porte rode as a key support rider for Froome last year on the Sky team, but now has free reign to attack.

''Porte goes well in the climbs, he goes well in time trials, you have to keep a good distance on him,'' Nibali said. ''You have to watch Valverde, he can attack at any time.''

The 34-year-old Valverde was handed a two-year suspension in 2010 for his involvement in the Operation Puerto doping plot, which involved dozens of riders over secretly stored blood bags.

Like Nibali, Pantani was a courageous cyclist who loved to attack in the tough climbs.

Pantani was found dead in a hotel room on Valentine's Day in 2004 and a coroner ruled he died from cocaine poisoning. Nibali has one of Pantini's yellow jerseys at home, a gift from Pantini's mother to mark the 10th anniversary of his death.

''It would be a great honour to follow on from him,'' said Nibali.

Friday's stage will also be special for Nibali because it marks the 100th anniversary of the birth of two-time Tour champion Gino Bartali, who died in 2000 at the age of 85.

''As an Italian, it's a huge privilege to be asked about Bartali. I grew up watching documentaries on the big riders, the big wins of (Felice) Gimondi, Bartali and (Fausto) Coppi,'' Nibali said. ''They're all in the encyclopedia of cycling. There are others like Hinault, too. They've written the history of cycling.''

The last French heyday came in the 1980s when Hinault, a five-time champion, competed against Laurent Fignon, who won in '83 and '84.

Wednesday's stage is a 187.5-kilometer (116.3-mile) route in eastern France from Besancon to Oyonnax and features four small climbs.

Wolves, Warriors restart Love talks

LAS VEGAS (AP)—The Minnesota Timberwolves and Golden State Warriors have reopened trade talks for All-Star forward Kevin Love, a person with knowledge of the situation told The Associated Press on Tuesday.

With most of the NBA in Las Vegas for summer league games, the sides have had a chance to meet face-to-face to talk about a deal mentioned as a possibility for more than a month. The person requested anonymity because both teams are not publicly commenting on trade discussions.

Timberwolves president and coach Flip Saunders was seen talking to Warriors general manager Bob Myers at the arena on Sunday as the teams look to bridge the gap that caused discussions to stall. The Warriors have been reluctant to include shooting guard Klay Thompson in any package, which has been considered a deal-breaker for the Timberwolves.

There were no signs that the Warriors were ready to change their position on Thompson. New Warriors coach Steve Kerr is keen on pairing Thompson with Steph Curry in the backcourt that has become known as the ''Splash Brothers,'' even as he acknowledged earlier in the summer that he would like to add a power forward with shooting range.

There is none better at bringing that dimension than Love, a 25-year-old who plans to opt out of his contract at the end of next season and go looking for a contender. Love has not made the playoffs in the first six seasons of his career in Minnesota.

So far, the Wolves and Warriors have discussed swapping Love and veteran shooting guard Kevin Martin for David Lee, Harrison Barnes and a future draft pick. That hasn't been enough for Saunders, who has been adamant that that 24-year-old Thompson be the main piece to come back.

The Wolves also have talked to the Cleveland Cavaliers, who have LeBron James coming back home to play next season. A three-player core of James, Love and Kyrie Irving would immediately make the Cavaliers a favorite in the wide-open Eastern Conference, but Cavaliers GM David Griffin has refused to part with No. 1 overall pick Andrew Wiggins to land Love.

The Timberwolves have demanded Wiggins be a part of the deal, which has put those discussions at a standstill.

Love and James were teammates on gold medal-winning Team USA in London in 2012 and James has long been an admirer of the super-athletic Wiggins, who has been a much-hyped prospect during his prep days in Canada and his one season at Kansas.

Saunders has said he'd have no issues keeping Love, making a couple of moves to improve a roster that finished 10th in the West last season and trying to make a playoff run to convince the face of the franchise he should stay in Minnesota.

That strategy worked for the Portland Trail Blazers with LaMarcus Aldridge, and the Wolves believe Love could change his mind if enough improvements are made. The Wolves also can pay Love about $26.5 million more than any other team with the extra year they can offer him.

Jeter helps AL win in All-Star farewell

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Derek Jeter soaked in the adulation from fans and players during one more night on baseball's national stage, set the tone for the American League with a pregame speech and then delivered two final All-Star hits.

Mike Trout, perhaps the top candidate to succeed the 40-year-old Yankees captain as the face of the game, seemed ready to assume the role with a tiebreaking triple and later a go-ahead double that earned the 22-year-old MVP honors.

On a summer evening filled with reminders of generational change, the AL kept up nearly two decades of dominance by beating the National League 5-3 Tuesday for its 13th win in 17 years.

''I think let Mike be Mike. I don't think people have to necessarily appoint someone to a particular position,'' Jeter said. ''He's got a bright future ahead of him. I don't know how much better he can get, but if he consistently does what he's doing, then he will be here for a long time.''

Miguel Cabrera hit a two-run homer to help give the AL champion home-field advantage for the World Series.

No matter what else happened, from the start it seemed destined to be another special event for Jeter.

He made a diving stop on Andrew McCutchen's grounder to shortstop leading off the game and received a 63-second standing ovation when he walked to the plate before his opposite-field double to right leading off the bottom half. He was given another rousing cheer before his single to right starting the third and 2 1-2 minutes more applause after AL manager John Farrell sent Alexei Ramirez to shortstop to replace him at the start of the fourth.

As Frank Sinatra's recording of ''New York, New York'' boomed over the Target Field speakers and his parents watched from the stands, Jeter repeatedly waved to the crowd, exchanged handshakes and hugs with just about every person in the AL dugout and then came back onto the field for a curtain call.

''It was a special moment and it was unscripted,'' Jeter said. ''I was unaware of it.''

NL manager Mike Matheny of the Cardinals didn't want it to stop.

''The guys on our side have the utmost respect for him and would like to have been standing out there for a little while longer,'' he said. ''I think Derek was the one that was uncomfortable with it.''

While not as flashy as Mariano Rivera's All-Star farewell at Citi Field last year, when all the other players left the great reliever alone on the field for an eighth-inning solo bow, Jeter tried not to make a fuss and to deflect the attention.

Even during his clubhouse speech.

''He just wanted to thank us,'' Trout said. ''You know, we should be thanking him.''

A 14-time All-Star who was MVP of the 2000 game in Atlanta, Jeter announced in February this will be his final season. His hits left him with a .481 All-Star average (13 for 27), just behind Charlie Gehringer's .500 record (10 for 20) for players with 20 or more at-bats.

While the Yankees are .500 at the break and in danger of missing the postseason in consecutive years for the first time in two decades, Jeter and the Angels' Trout gave a boost to whichever AL team reaches the World Series.

The AL improved to 9-3 since the All-Star game started deciding which league gets Series home-field advantage; 23 of the last 28 titles were won by teams scheduled to host four of a possible seven games.

Detroit's Max Scherzer, in line to be the most-prized free agent pitcher after the season, pitched a scoreless fifth for the win, and Glen Perkins got the save in his home ballpark.

Target Field, a $545 million, limestone-encased jewel that opened in 2010, produced an All-Star cycle just eight batters in, with hitters showing off flashy neon-bright spikes and fielders wearing All-Star caps with special designs for the first time.

With the late sunset—the sky didn't darken until the fifth inning, well after 9 o'clock - there was bright sunshine when Jeter was cheered before his first at-bat. He was introduced by a recording of late Yankees public address announcer Bob Sheppard's deep monotone. St. Louis pitcher Adam Wainwright left his glove on the mound and backed up toward second, clapping along with the crowd of 41,048.

''I tried to tell him to pick it up—let's go,'' Jeter said. ''But he took a moment and let the fans give me an ovation which I will always remember.''

When Jeter finally stepped into the batter's box, he took a ball and lined a 90 mph cutter down the right-field line for a double.

''I was going to give him a couple pipe shots just to—he deserved it,'' Wainwright said. ''I thought he was going to hit something hard to the right side for a single or an out. I probably should have pitched him a little bit better.''

After those in-game remarks created a stir on the Internet, Wainwright amended himself: ''It was mis-said. I hope people realize I'm not intentionally giving up hits out there.''

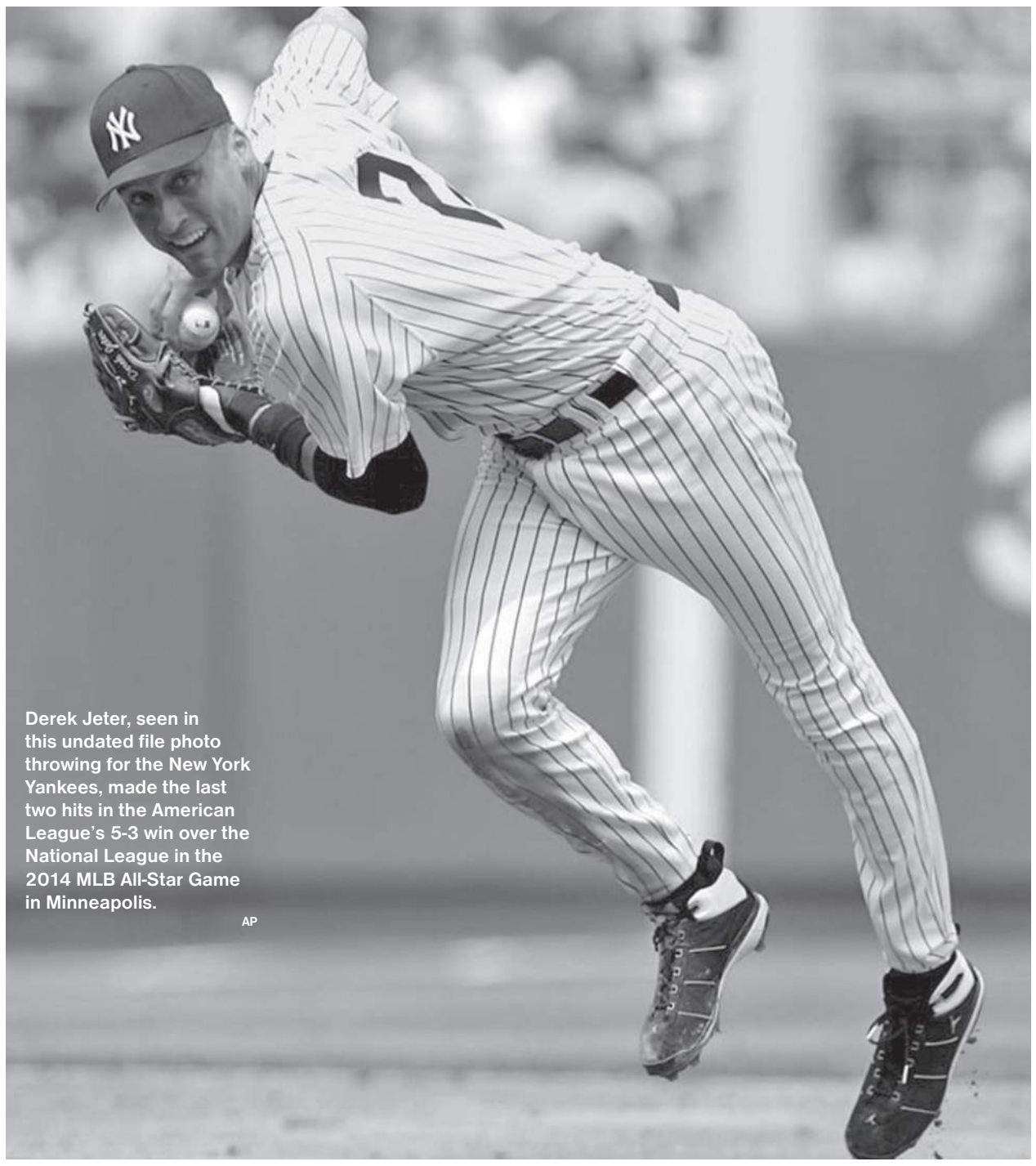
Trout, who finished second to Cabrera in AL MVP voting in each of the last two seasons, became the youngest All-Star MVP, about 3 1-2 months older than Ken Griffey Jr. was in 1992.

Playing in his third All-Star game, Trout followed Jeter in the first by tripling off the right-field wall. Cabrera's homer—just the fourth in the last six All-Star games—made it 3-0, but the NL tied it on consecutive RBI doubles by Chase Utley and Jonathan Lucroy off Jon Lester in the second and Lucroy's run-scoring double against Chris Sale in the fourth.

Trout put the AL ahead for good with an RBI double in the fifth—a bouncer over third base against Pat Neshek, the St. Louis reliever who grew up in the Minneapolis suburbs and started his career with the Twins. Jose Altuve followed with a sacrifice fly off Tyler Clippard.

Raised in New Jersey, Trout saw a lot of Jeter and said all week he felt honored to play alongside him.

''Growing up I was setting goals to myself that when I get—if I ever get the chance to get—to the big leagues, that's how I want to play,'' Trout said. ''And the way he carries himself on and off the field, how he respects the game—always hustling, it doesn't matter what the score is. If they are down 10 runs, he is always running the ball out. That's how I want to play.''



Derek Jeter, seen in this undated file photo throwing for the New York Yankees, made the last two hits in the American League's 5-3 win over the National League in the 2014 MLB All-Star Game in Minneapolis.

AP

Trout stands out, takes MVP award

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Baseball's 2014 All-Star Game featured a national coming-out party for Mike Trout, a strikeout parade for Yasiel Puig and a 90-mph fastball that left Derek Jeter's final game shrouded in controversy.

National League starter Adam Wainwright admitted he grooved Jeter the first two pitches of night, the latter of which Jeter stroked for a double that highlighted a 2-for-2 evening. Trout drove him in with a triple, the first of two extra-base hits on his way to winning the game's MVP award for leading the American League to a 5-3 victory on Tuesday night that gives the AL champion home-field advantage in the World Series.

Wainwright's comments to a group of reporters following his appearance in the game only reinforced the dubious awarding of home-field based on a game in which the starting pitcher was more than content to feed Jeter, the New York Yankees shortstop and a surefire Hall of Famer retiring at season's end, two easy pitches to hit

"I was gonna give him a couple pipe shots. He deserved it," said Wainwright, the St. Louis Cardinals starter. "I didn't know he was gonna hit a double or I might have changed my mind."

Wainwright apologized for the comments, namely to Jeter, in a later interview with Fox.

"You know what, sometimes my humor gets taken the wrong way," Wainwright said. "I feel terrible about this. If anyone's taken any credit away from what Derek Jeter has done tonight, or off me or anything, I mean, it was mis-said. I made a mistake about that."

Jeter, in classic fashion, laced the ball down the right-field line, just as he did with a third-inning single. In the top of the fourth inning, he left the game to a massive applause, replete with a curtain call and two doffs of his cap, the same number he deigned to give before his first at-bat.

"If [Wainwright] grooved it, thank you," Jeter said after the game. "Still gotta hit it."

All night, the crowd of 41,048 at Target Field bathed Jeter with appreciation on what could be his final national stage. That he batted in front of Trout, to whom he passes his mantel as the face of baseball, was more than appropriate.

Trout, the 22-year-old outfielder for the Los Angeles Angels whom Jeter joked in the dugout was too young to exit before the game was over, added a game-winning double to his triple and finished with a pair of RBIs and a run scored on a first-inning Miguel Cabrera home run.

The AL took a 3-0 lead in the first frame, only to cough it up in the fourth before retaking it an inning later on Trout's double and tacking on another with a Jose Altuve sacrifice fly. Max Scherzer earned the win with a zero in the fifth inning, and Scott Kazmir, Koji Uehara, Greg Holland, Sean Doolittle, Fernando Rodney and Glen Perkins, a born-and-bred Minnesotan, threw four more scoreless innings to lock down the NL. Cardinals pitchers combined to allow all five AL runs, with reliever Pat Neshek taking the loss after giving up the final two runs.

That wasn't the worst performance of the night. Puig, the Los Angeles Dodgers star participating in his first All-Star week, followed his zero-homer performance in the Home Run Derby on Monday night with an even more dubious achievement: three strikeouts in three at-bats over five innings and 18 pitches. He swung through a 90-mph changeup from AL starter Felix Hernandez in the first, stared at a 79-mph slider from Yu Darvish in the third and swung over an 84-mph slider from Scherzer in the third.

Granted, they are perhaps three of the 10 best pitchers on earth, so the shame isn't altogether overwhelming. Puig will have plenty more All-Star Games, along with Trout and the litany of other young stars in the game. It was one of the better in recent years, from the 56-mph eephus curveball Darvish unleashed to the shot from Cabrera to the brilliance of Trout to Jeter doing what Jeter does.

Blue Haus beats Hawaiian Rock

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Blue Haus joined Mariana Resort in the opening day winners list after downing Hawaiian Rock, 86-79, in the second game in the 2014 Emon Lodge No.179 Basketball League 40 and Above Masters Division last Monday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Ed Pangelina took care of business outside for Blue Haus, while Junar Guiab and Bruce Berline cherry-picked in the shaded lane to give their team a winning debut. Pangelinan led all scorers with his 24 points, 12 of them came from the 3-point area, and he drilled Blue Haus' last 10 points. Guaib chipped in 20, while Berline also finished in twin digits, tallying 17.

Despite Blue Haus edge on firepower, Hawaiian Rock managed to stay in the game in the first half before the former seized full control of the match in the third. Blue Haus went on a 31-20 scoring binge in the pivotal third canto to turn a slim 33-32 halftime lead to a 64-52 advantage. Blue Haus padded the lead to as much as 16 in the fourth period before letting its guard down a bit past the halfway mark of that frame, allowing Hawaiian Rock to get garbage points and cut the deficit to single digit.

With Hawaiian Rock making easy baskets, four of its players scored in double figures with Ronald Abaygar leading the way with his 15 markers. Lilio Tiples contributed 14, while Jerry Lopez and Jack Palacios added 10 apiece.

Abaygar made six of his total points in the first period, lifting Hawaiian Rock a 17-14 lead after 10 minutes of play. Hawaiian Rock went on to lose the driver's seat in the second canto, as it failed to neutralize Guiab, who fired 11 points, including nine straight markers in the latter part of the first half.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Blue Haus' Junar Guiab is fouled by Hawaiian Rock's Noel Mateo during the fourth quarter of their game in the Emon Lodge caging last Monday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Blue Haus kept the upper hand in the second half, as Pangelinan, who was scoreless in the first half, began connecting from outside. The Blue Haus sharpshooter buried two triples in the third and scored 14 points in that canto, upping his team's lead to 12, entering the fourth canto.

Pangelinan then took a breather in the first half of the fourth frame, but Berline was there to give Blue Haus easy baskets in the paint to keep the squad's safe distance. The Blue Haus bruiser dropped 10 of the team's first 12 points in the fourth period. Guiab scored the other two points, while Pangelinan put the finishing touches on the victory when he reported back to the floor and registered a string of 10 points.

Blue Haus 86 – Pangelinan 24, Guiab 20, Berline 17, Diaz 8, Santos 5, Moises 4, Manabat 4, Factor 4.

Hawaiian Rock 79 – Abaygar 15, Tiples 14, Lopez 10, Palacios 10, Dela Cruz 4, De Belen 3, Saplan 2, Guiang 2.

Scoring by quarters: 14-17, 33-32, 64-52, 86-79.

EAFF

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with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

The CNMI also has three off-island players—Maxberry, Silberberger, and Schuler—joining the team and though they arrived on Saipan less than two weeks ago, they are blending well with the rest of the squad.

"Carrie and Megan were with us during a similar EAFF tournament (EAFF Asian Cup 2013 Preliminary Competition Round 1) two years ago, so they are used to playing with most of the girls. Emily failed to join us in 2012, but when she arrived early this month, she hit it off right away with the girls and has been providing leadership to our young players," the team manager added.

As for the players who remain on island, Ito said they continue training since the 2012 EAFF competition and the couple of off-island tournaments helped strengthen the squad and prepared them for the upcoming event in Guam.

"Our players went to Hong Kong and China this year and with those tough games, I hope the girls now know what it takes to play in a high-level of competition against Guam and Macau," said Ito, who was part of the squad that beat Hong Kong's U19 national team, 2-0, in an invitational tournament in May this year.

The team manager added that by playing in off-island tournaments and training regularly at the Oleai Sports Complex Field and Koblerville under the coaches from Chelsea FC Soccer School Hong Kong, the CNMI players have developed speed and chemistry and are in better shape than the last time they participated in the EAFF event.

"I hope these developments will be enough to give us positive results in Guam," said Ito.

One down, one to go: Rio Olympics next for Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — Brazil just pulled off the World Cup. Next up is Rio de Janeiro's 2016 Olympics, which poses an even bigger challenge.

Cement trucks are busy, creating billowing dust clouds, and girders are rising along Avenida Embaixador Abelardo Bueno, the road running in front of the main Olympic Park in the suburb of Barra da Tijuca.

''It's going, it's going,'' said a worker at the construction site, wearing an orange helmet, blue overalls and introducing himself as Mauricio Lima.

Rust-orange beams sprouted behind him as he talked, a superstructure that in two years will become the Olympic media and broadcast centers.

''There is a lot to do, but things are moving,'' he added.

The World Cup overcame fears about protests, half-finished stadiums and chaotic transport to deliver an exciting tournament that culminated with Germany's 1-0 victory over Argentina in extra time in the final.

Brazil's humiliating 7-1 loss against Germany in the semifinals was a blow to the home country, and the collapse a week ago of an overpass - part of a World Cup project in the southeast city of Belo Horizonte - killed two people. Eight workers died in World Cup stadium construction accidents.

Rio's Olympics have had their own problems.

PIC holds Laser Tag tournament Saturday

Pacific Islands Club will be hosting the 5th Annual Laser Tag Tournament this Saturday at the hotel's facility in San Antonio.

Registration will start at 5pm in the southern lot of the PIC, while the tournament will kick off at 5:45pm.

So far, nine teams have registered for the weekend event and PIC will accept up to 12 squads. Each team must have 3 players. Two teams will go into an elimination style battle on Laser Tag Park. Each player is allotted with a certain number of "ammunition" and lives during each match. Additionally, every match is given a time limit of three to five minutes. Games will begin with "Capture the flag" style pool play and then finish off in double elimination battles.

Entry fee is $10 per person. All participants must wear running shoes and should be in the 14 and above age group. Tournament entry forms and Laser Tag Park Rules can be found at the PIC Information Desk or at the SEA Office from 9am to 6pm daily. Payments should be turned into the PIC Information Desk.

Pacific Islands Club-Saipan, Miller Lite, Gatorade, and IP&E are the tournament sponsors.

For more information, contact Dennis Tababa at 237-5175 or email at dennis.tababa@pic-saipan.com. ***(PR)***

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three players made baskets in the payoff canto. Only Rommel Usi and Sean Rabasto scored more than two points in the fourth quarter with the former nailing two triples and the latter adding four markers. Erick Dela Rosa was the other Shirley's/Century's to hit the board in the fourth, dropping the team's first basket.

Shirley's/Century's led by as much as 8 points in the first half and completed the half time with a 44-38 advantage, as Usi sizzled with 13 big points in the second canto and canned three triples. The shooting guard tallied eight of Shirley's/Century's first nine points in the second period to give his team more cushion after a 20-15 lead in the first period.

Usi then went cold in the third canto, scoring only two points, while Manglona partnered with Vinas in bringing World Resort closer to Shirley's/Century's. Vinas and Manglona combined for 12 of World Resort's 17 points in the third to cut Shirley's/Century's lead to three.

Manglona picked up where he left off in the fourth canto and this time found a new ally in Lewis to hand World Resort a win in its debut.

Meanwhile, defending champion Hyatt Regency Saipan and Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan played in the opening game of the league and results of the match will be reported in Saipan Tribune's Friday edition.

World Resort 80 – Manglona 22, Lewis 17, Vinas 13, Danas 10, Bernardo 8, Raymond 4, Tiamzon 2, Valle 2.

Shirley's/Century Hotel 70 – Usi 21, Dela Rosa 19, Rabasto 14, Jugos 7, Aguila 5, Nicdao 2.

Scoring by quarters: 15-20, 38-44, 55-58, 80-70.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	51	42	.548	—
Toronto	49	46	.516	3
New York	47	46	.505	4
Tampa Bay	43	53	.448	9 1/2
Boston	42	52	.447	9 ½

Central Division

Detroit	53	37	.589	—
Kansas City	47	46	.505	7 1/2
Cleveland	46	47	.495	8 1/2
Chicago	45	50	.474	10 1/2
Minnesota	43	50	.462	11 ½

West Division

Oakland	58	36	.617	—
Los Angeles	56	37	.602	1 1/2
Seattle	51	43	.543	7
Houston	40	55	.421	18 1/2
Texas	38	56	.404	20

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Washington	51	42	.548	—
Atlanta	52	43	.547	—
New York	45	50	.474	7
Miami	44	50	.468	7½
Philadelphia	42	53	.442	10

Central Division

Milwaukee	53	43	.552	—
St. Louis	52	44	.542	1
Cincinnati	51	44	.537	1½
Pittsburgh	49	46	.516	3½
Chicago	40	54	.426	12

West Division

Los Angeles	54	43	.557	—
San Francisco	52	43	.547	1
San Diego	41	54	.432	12
Colorado	40	55	.421	13
Arizona	40	56	.417	13½

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Familiar winners in MVA's swimming festival

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Participants in Marianas Visitors Authority's (MVA) 1st Annual Swimming Festival in Managaha pose for a photo before heading out to the course.

Tsunami Saipan's Kensuke Kimura showed his winning form to top the Marianas Visitors Authority's (MVA) 1st Annual Swimming Festival in Managaha held late last month, while teammate Angel Marie Tan ruled the women's division.

Kimura and Tan, who won last year's event when it was still known as the Saipan International Open Water Flipper Race Tournament, clocked in at 21:16 and 22:52 in the June 28 competition. Kimura finished ahead of Takumi Sugie (22:41) and Daishi Hiroki (24:20) in the men's overall ranking, while Tan defeated Angel De Jesus (26:53) and Miku Tammy (27:59).

Thirty-three participants from Japan, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands joined the event, with another 19 joining the 500m and 1500m group swim.

"We're very happy with the results of the festival. Everything went smoothly, and the participants had a safe and enjoyable time," MVA managing director Perry Tenorio said.

In the male junior division, the winners were Jhota Yoshina (28:46) for the U10 age group and Mark Anthony Maestro (27:56) for the 11 to 12 division. In the female junior division, the winners were Sophia Klair Gauran (38:02) for the U10 category, Megumi Yoshino (28:38) for the 11 to 12 age group, and Daime Rivera (38:04) for the 16 to 18 bracket.

Other winners include Takehiro Kashima (38:56) for male 30-39; Hiroshi Tanaka 32:01) for male 40-49; Juelee Won (34:29) for female 30-39; Miyako Mamana (48:39) for female 40-49; Lorie Hutchinson (35:08) for female 50-59; and Haruko Kawafuji (38:04) for female 60-and-above.

Meanwhile, the race also lured gymnast and Olympic medalist Takehiro Kashima, who won gold and bronze medals in the 2004 Summer Olympics in Athens and a silver medal in the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing. Kashima was the guest of Central Sports Co., Ltd., the largest fitness club franchise in Japan and co-organizer of the swimming festival.

Representatives of Japan media Marine Diving Magazine and Music Bird radio were also on island to cover the event, which required swimmers to use wetsuits or life jacket and fins along with mask and snorkels.

Event sponsors include Japan Marine Recreation Association, Japan Recreational Diving Industry Association, Japan Scuba Association, Japan Wetsuits Manufacturers Association, University life Sport Education Society, and Northern Mariana Diving Operators Association. Co-sponsors of the event are Delta Air Lines, Japan Saipan Travel Association, Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands, DFS Saipan, and the Commonwealth Health Center. The MVA also extended its appreciation to Dept. of Public Safety Boating Safety, Tasi Tours, Smiling Cove Marina, and timers Peter and Emma Perez of Saipan Swim Club. ***(MVA)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Winners how their medals and plaques after the awards presentation.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Japanese participants gather around before the start of the race.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Marianas Visitors Authority community projects specialist Ryan Calvo checks cap numbers as finishers come in.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tsunami Saipan's Kensuke Kimura strikes a winning pose.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Japanese Olympian Takahiro Kashima, center, poses with friends after finishing the race.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Finishers pose for a group photo after completing the swim.

Wade signs two-year deal with Heat

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Jeter helps AL win in All-Star farewell

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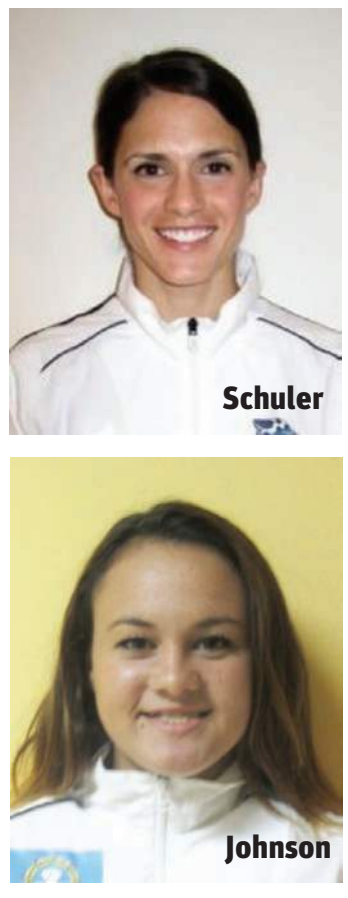
18 off to Guam for EAFF tourney

A talig

Enriquez

Maxberry

Masga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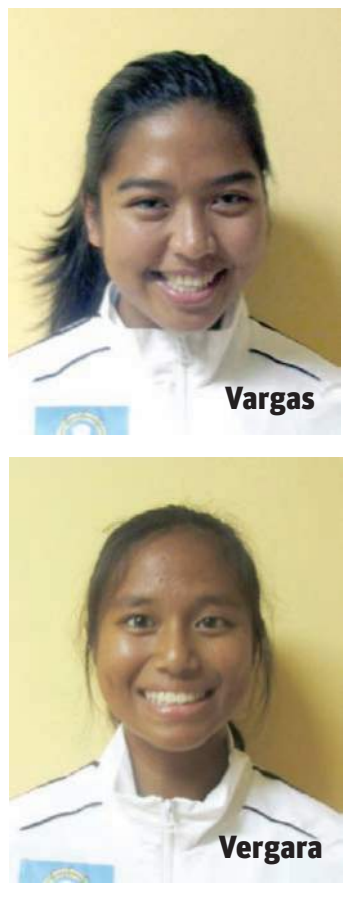
Vargas

Gariguez

Jeraldine Castillo

Jeralyn Castillo

Silberberger

Johnson

Vergara

Pablo

Minor

Phan

Race

Tuazon

Alipio

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI Women's National Team was named yesterday with 18 players making the list and representing the Commonwealth to the 2015 EAFF East Asian Cup's Preliminary Round 1.

Named to the squad are Jhaneeka Atalig, Elaine Enriquez, Emily Maxberry, Michelle Masga, Carrie Schuler, Mikky Vargas, Marielle Gariguez, Jeraldine and Jeralyn Castillo, Megan Silberberger, Melody Johnson, Alexa Vergara, Diane Pablo, Thea Minor, Elizabeth Phan, Gabrielle Race, Krizelle Mae Tuazon, and Chevy Kate Alipio. Luam Khen Koo is the head coach with Wai Wo Lee assisting him, while Chi Ming Tang is the goalkeeper coach. Mae Angeline Ito is the team manager.

The CNMI Women's National Team will be competing in the EAFF-sanctioned tournament in Guam against the host and Macau. The Commonwealth players will meet Guam in their first game this Sunday and Macau in the last match on July 24.

"We're hoping to get a good start against Guam. We're somehow familiar with their players, so we know what to expect from them. We learned Guam has some collegiate players coming in so we prepared for that," Ito said in a telephone interview

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World Resort rallies past Shirley's/Century Hotel

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

World Resort saved the best for last to bag a come-from-behind 80-70 win over Shirley's Coffee Shop/Century Hotel in the second game in the 2014 Budweiser Inter-Hotel Basketball League last Tuesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Down in first three quarters of the nightcap in the opening day of the revived league, World Resort more than doubled Shirley's output in the fourth period and scored its most points in a quarter (25) to come away with the 10-point winning margin. World Resort's twin-digit lead nearly matched Shirley's/Century's total production in the fourth canto alone, as the latter was held to 12 markers and four field goals.

Young guns John Lewis Junior and Eugene Manglona teamed up in World Resort's fourth-quarter fight back as they combined for 19 points. Lewis started the fourth period with a triple to even up the count after World Resort trailed at the end of the third canto, 55-58. Manglona then finished what Lewis started, scoring World Resort's last 9 markers. Manglona ended up with a team-high 22 points, 13 of them came in the final period, as he outgunned the entire Shirley's/Century's crew.

Shirley's/Century collapsed in the fourth frame after only

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
World Resort's Jomar Danas pulls up for a floater against Shirley's/Century Hotel's Vince Manibusan during the second quarter of their game in the Budweiser Inter-Hotel caging last Tuesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.